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Tuesday, February 19, 1974
Magha 30, 1895 (Saka)

LOK SABHA DEBATES

Tenth Session
(Fifth Lok Sabha)

सत्यमेव जयते

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

NEW DELHI

CONTENTS

COLUMNS

No. 2—*Tuesday, February* 19, 1974/*Magha* 30, 1895 (*Saka*)

Introduction of Ministers 1

Oral Answers to Questions :

*Starred Questions Nos. 1 to 3, 6, 7 and 10 . . . 1—24

Written Answers to Questions :

Starred Questions Nos. 4, 8, 9, 11 to 16 and 18 to 20 . 24—33

Unstarred Questions Nos. 1 to 32, 34 to 101, 103 to 118, 120 to 164, 166 to 172 and 174 to 200 . . . 33—198

Statement correcting Answer to U.S. Q. No. 9612 dated 8-5-1973. 198-99

Announcement *Re.* Panel of Chairmen 199-200

Calling Attention to Matter of Urgent Public Importance : . .

Reported coal shortage hitting Steel Plants . . . . 200—21

Re. Motion of Adjournment . . . . . . 222—26

Papers laid on the Table . . . . . . 226—28

Statement *Re.* Junior Doctors' Strike in Delhi . . . . 228—33

Dr. Karan Singh . . . . 229—32

Matter under rule 377—

Election Commission's reported decision staggering polling dates in Orissa 233-34

National Co-operative Development Corporation (Second Amendment) Bill—

Motion to consider . . . . 234—85

Shri Annasaheb P. Shinde . . . . 235—39, 260—10

Shri S. P. Bhattacharyya . . . . . . 239—43

Shri Ramavatar Shastri . . . . . . 243—47

Shri M.C. Daga . . . . 247—53

*The sign + marked above the name of a Member indicates that the quetion was actually asked on the floor of the House by that Member.

3151 L.S.—1.

	Columns
Shri Onkar Lal Berwa	254—56
Shri Ramkanwar	256-57
Shri Ram Deo Singh	257-58
Shri Anantrao Patil	258—60
Clauses 2 to 16 and 1	
Motion to pass, as amended	284
Shri Panna Lal Barupal	284
Shri Annasaheb P. Shinde	284
Presidential and Vice-Presidential Elections (Amendment) Bill—	
Motion to consider, as reported by Joint Committee	285—326
Shri H. R. Gokhale	285—88
Shri Somnath Chatterjee	288—300
Shri H. N. Mukerjee	300—307
Shri Dinesh Chandra Goswami	307—13
Shri R. V. Bade	313—16
Shri P. G. Mavalankar	316—25
Business Advisory Committee—	
Thirty-sixth Report	326

LOK SABHA

Tuesday, February 19 1974/ *Magha* 30, 1895 (*Saka*)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

INTRODUCTION OF MINISTERS

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Prime Minister to introduce the new Ministers.

THE PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY, MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND MINISTER OF SPACE (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI): Sir, I have pleasure in introducing to you and through you, to the House, my new colleagues, Shri K. D. Malaviya, Minister of Steel and Mines; Shri K. Brahmananda Reddy, Minister of Communications and Shri B. P. Maurya, Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Agreement with U.S.S.R. for Import of Crude Oil

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*1. SHRI RAMKANWAR:
SHRIMATI BHARGAVI THANKAPPAN:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Soviet Union has agreed to give crude oil to India under the recent 15-year economic agreement signed between the two countries; and

(b) if so, the quantity of crude likely to be given by the Soviet Union and the terms on which the crude will be supplied?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI D. K. BOROOAH): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

श्री रामकंवर : मंत्री महोदय ने प्रश्न के उत्तर में कहा है कि रूस के साथ जो पन्द्रह वर्षीय समझौता हुआ है उस के अन्तर्गत क्रूड आयल देने का प्रश्न ही नहीं उठता। रूस के साथ हमारे गहरे सम्बन्ध हैं। उन के पास तेल बहुत है। मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि उन से तेल मिलने के बारे में क्या आप ने उनसे कोई बातचीत की है और क्या उन्होंने इस के लिये इन्कार कर दिया है, जब कि हमारे देश में तेल का इतना संकट चल रहा है?

श्री देवकान्त बरुआ : कई मामलों के बारे में बातचीत हुई थी, जैसे किरोसिन के बारे में, एक्सप्लोरेशन के बारे में, ड्रिलि के बारे में। लेकिन वह देश इतना दूर पडता है कि अभी वहा से क्रूड आयल का लाना सम्भव नहीं है।

श्री रामकंवर : बम्बई मे जो तेल की खुदाई का काम शुरू किया गया है, क्या उस में वह कुछ आर्थिक सहायता दे रहे है?

श्री देवकान्त बरुआ : जब माननीय सदस्य बम्बई की बात कहते है तब शायद वह समुद्र की बात कह रहे हैं? ऐसी बात नही है।

SHRIMATI BHARGAVI THANKAPPAN: I want to know whether the Government of India have requested

the Government of USSR to offer crude oil to India and if not, why the Government has not requested them.

SHRI D. K. BOROOAH: That is what I understood earlier.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: The question is: whether the Government of U.S.S.R. have supplied all the crude oil. If not, why not.

SHRI D. K. BOROOAH: I have discussed this matter. It was found that the distance involved is very great and it would not be within the communication range.

SHRI S. R. DAMANI: May I know from the hon. Minister what is the total annual requirement of crude oil and how much of it is produced in this country and how much are we going to economise in our consumption.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is about the Soviet Union. This is not a general question. Your question is, therefore, not relevant.

SHRI R. BALAKRISHNA PILLAI: I want to know whether the Soviet Union is quoting an exorbitant price for the crude oil which they have promised to supply to India. If So, what is the price quoted by the Soviet Union?

SHRI D. K. BOROOAH: The price they charge is the international ruling price. The price at which all agreements are made is certainly higher. But I would not call it 'exorbitant.' Moreover, all the deals are kept secret.

SHRI R. BALAKRISHNA PILLAI: My question is not about the international market price. I only want to know the price quoted by the Soviet Union. If that is not the international price you can very well say that.

SHRI D. K. BOROOAH: The international price is all the time changing. But, so far as bilateral agreement between us and that country is concerned, it is a secret deal and this is one of the conditions with which we have enterd into an agreement.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD: In the background of economic collaborations whether Government of India have requested the Soviet Union to use its good offices with the other friendly gulf countries to supply us the crude oil from that part of the country on a reasonable basis.

SHRI D. K. BOROOAH: The Soviet Union has discused the matter with the leaders of such countries which are friendly to the Soviet Union and I am glad to say that the discussions have had a good impact.

Foreign Collaboration in Off-shore Oil Exploration Projects

*2. DR H. P. SHARMA:
SHRI BIRENDER SINGH RAO:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether negotiations are going on to secure foreign collaboration in off-shore oil exploration projects ;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof so far; and

(c) the projects in respect of which the negotiations are going on?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI D K. BOROOAH): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Negotiations are still in progress.

(c) At present negotiations are going on with selected foreign parties for some of the off-shore areas.

श्री बीरेन्द्र सिंह राव : मैंने सवाल में पूछा है कि कौन कौन से प्रोजेक्टस हैं जिन के मुताल्लिक नेगोसिएन्शस चल रहे हैं। क्या वजीर साहब बतलाने की मेहरबानी करेंगे कि जो कदम वह उठा रहे हैं उस से डीजल और पैट्रोल की कमी से जो मुश्किल सूरते हाल पैदा हो रही है उन में कोई सुधार होने की उम्मीद है, या आइन्दा साल में

कुछ और बिगाड़ होने का अन्देशा है। दूसरी बात मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि जो नेगो-सिएशन चल रहे हैं उन में कौन कौन सी प्रोजेक्टस के मुतालिक कोई फाइनेलाइजेशन हुआ है और क्या वह किसी नतीजे पर पहुंचे है। क्या वजीरसाहब यह भी बतलाने की कृपा करेंगें कि रूस के जो पैट्रोलियम के मिनिस्टर पिछले दिनों हिन्दुस्तान आये थे, जिन के साथ उन्होंने गैलेकी का दौरा किया था, उस का क्या नतीजा निकला और क्या उस से कुछ उम्मीद है।

श्री देवकान्त बरुआ : यह सवाल आफ शोर ड्रिलिंग के बारे में था। यह तो समुद्र के नजदीक का क्षेत्र है जिस को कंटिनेंटल शैल कहते है इसको दस हिस्सों में बाटा गया है। एक हिस्से में जो बम्बई के पास है वहां हम एक्सप्लोरेशन कर रहे है। बाकी नौ के लिये कम्पनियों के साथ बातचीत कर रहे है। अभी वह जारी है और उसके बारे में कुछ बताना उचित नही होगा। गैलेकी सवाल के अन्दर नहीं आता है। फिर भी मैं इतना कहना चाहता हू कि सोवियत एक्सपर्टस के साथ में वहा गया था और उन्होंने उसको देखा है। उनका कहना है कि वह बहुत बडा प्रोसपैक्टिव एरिया है।

श्री वीरेन्द्र सिंह राव : इस में छिपाने की क्या बात है? किन किन कंट्रीज के साथ बातचीत चल रही है।

मैंने यह भी पूछा था कि इस कदम से स्थिति मे सुधार होने की उम्मीद है या और बिगाड़ होगा ?

श्री देवकान्त बरुआ : यह जो उन्होंने कहा है कि बातचीत के बारे मे बताया जाए, मैं समझता हूं कि ऐसा करना उचित नहीं होगा कि किस किस से और क्या क्या बात हो रही है। जब तक इस बातचीत का कोई नतीजा नहीं निकलता है इसके बारे मे कुछ बताना उचित नही होगा।

जहा तक आफ-शोर ड्रिलिंग का सम्बन्ध है इस में समय लगेगा। पहले कम्पनी को देना पड़ेगा, वह जा कर वहा देखभाल करेगी। एक्सप्लोर करेगी। उस में समय चार पाच छ: साल का लगेगा। पांचवे प्लान में आफ-शोर ड्रिलिंग के बारे मे ज्यादा कुछ नहीं है कि कितना उत्पादन होगा। आफ-शोर ड्रिलिंग मे अगर तेल मिलेगा तो जरुर हालत में सुधार होगा। उसके लिए इंतजार करना पड़ेगा।

DR. HENRY AUSTIN: May I know whether the Government are aware of a recent press conference held in Cochin by a naval officer, giving details of a study which he had made regarding certain prerequisites or symptoms for exploration of oil or for finding of oil? In that press conference Mr. M. V. K. Menon, Deputy Conservator, Cochin Harbour, had stated that wherever shrimps were available, they were an indication of the presence of oil there. He has cited several instances including the recent finding of oil in some off-shores on the basis of this study. If that be so, will the hon Minister consider the possibility of giving top priority to the prospecting of oil on the Kerala coast where the Indo-Norwegian project has already discovered the existence of an extensive shrimp belt from Mangalore right up to Vizhinjam near Trivandrum, and on the basis of that study, intensive exploitation of the shrimp, project is now being carried out. On the basis of this study, perhaps we can identify priority areas for exploration of oil

SHRI D. K. BOROOAH: Seismic and sea-bed survey on the basis of which off-shore drilling can be done are very highly sophisticated, difficult and complicated matters for which deeper study will be necessary. Although I would appreciate what the hon Member has said about the statement of

the Naval Officer at the Cochin Harbour, I would not take his word immediately without being supported by deep scientific and sophisticated studies made by specialists.

DR HENRY AUSTIN: He has cited the results of a scientific study.

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Why not discuss this with the foreign collaborators?

SHRI D. K. BOROOAH: I would not depend upon the words of a naval officer unless he is an expert on that line.

As regards the other part of the question, the entire Indian continental shelf which includes also the Kerala coast is considered to be prospective.

SHRI DINESH CHANDRA GOSWAMI: The hon. Minister has just now said that according to Soviet experts, there is tremendous scope for prospecting in Galeki and other areas of Assam. In that view of the matter may I know what projects Government have in mind in the Fifth Plan to explore the oil potentialities of the Upper Assam region?

MR. SPEAKER: This is about off-shore drilling.

SHRI DINESH CHANDRA GOSWAMI: I asked it out of his reply.

MR. SPEAKER: I am sorry: he went out of his way to answer it.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: In the course of the discussion Government are having with certain foreign parties regarding off-shore drilling, is any of these parties likely to stipulate a condition that a part of the oil which may be found through such off-shore drilling would be their property and would be at their disposal for export if they want? In case any such condition is laid down by any of these foreign parties, that is, not leaving the entire oil found to us but claiming a part of it for their own purpose, would the Government as a matter of policy agree to such a condition or reject it?

SHRI D. K. BOROOAH: I have great sympathy for what the hon member has said but we will perhaps cross the bridge when we come to it.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: That I know, but he could tell us whether they would agree to such a proposal.

SHRI D. K. BOROOAH: All these matters are under discussion.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Somebody has made such a condition.

MR. SPEAKER: Next question.

Acquisition of Equity shares of ESSO by Government

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*3. SHRI SHRIKISHAN MODI:
SHRI BHALJIBHAI PARMAR:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government will take over 74 per cent equity shares in all ESSOs operations in India;

(b) whether any agreement has been signed in this regard; and

(c) if so, the main features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI D. K BOROOAH): (a) to (c). Negotiations with ESSO for acquiring 74 per cent of its equity shares are in an advanced stage and a Bill in this regard is being introduced in the Lok Sabha shortly.

श्री श्रीकिशन मोदी : एसो कम्पनी के पचास परसेंट शेयर अभी आपके पास हैं। 74 परसेंट खरीदने में 200 करोड़ के लगभग आपको कम्पनी को देना पड़ेगा। मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि वर्तमान संकट को देखते हुए क्या 51 परसेंट शेयर खरीदने से आपका काम नहीं चल सकता है?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : बिल आ रहा है, कह लेना।

श्री श्रीकिशन मोदी : बर्मा शैल के बारे में भी क्या आप ऐसी ही विचार-धारा रखते हैं।

श्री देव कान्त बरूआ : बिल आएगा तो इस पर भी चर्चा होगी ही।

श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह : ये कह रहे हैं कि दूसरी कम्पनियों के बारे में भी क्या यही नीति रहेगी ? मंत्री महोदय का उत्तर बड़ा असन्तोष-जनक है। यही कहते हैं कि बिल आएगा तब बोलिएगा।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : मैं भी बैठा हूं। अगर आप दोनो का काम था तो मेरे बैठने की क्या जरूरत है।

श्री श्रीकिशन मोदी : क्या दूसरी कम्पनियो के बारे में भी आप यही नीति अपनाएगें जो एसो कम्पनी के बारे मे अपना रहे हैं ? क्या उनके भी 74 परसेंट शेयर खरीदने की आपकी योजना है ?

श्री देव कान्त बरूआ . सम्कृत मे है कि बाली के लिए जो सिर है वह सुग्रीव के लिए भी है। एक कम्पनी के लिये जो किया जाता है ज्यादातर चाँसिम है कि दूसरी कम्पनियों के साथ भी उसी प्रकार किया जाए। लेकिन कंडिशज चेंज हो जाए, वातावरण बदल जाए तो शायद उससे बेटर भी हो सकता है।

SHRI N. K. SANGHI: May I know from the hon. Minister as to what was the reason for not nationalising the entire capital of the ESSO, particularly when we have made this agreement to last for seven years in a deferred form? What is the reason that came in between for the Ministry in not taking over the entire liquid capital of the company?

SHRI D. K. BOROOAH: It is not mere nationalisation; it is acquisition by mutual consent, and we thought that there could be an agreement to supply crude oil for another seven years. That was the reason which has really prompted us to keep some commitment with them.

श्री इसहाक सम्भली : सरकार को मालूम है कि हिन्दुस्तान में जो तेल कम्पनियां हैं, वे अब तक अपनी लागत से कितने सौ बल्कि कितने हजार, गुना मुनाफ़ा यहा से कमा चुकी हैं और हिन्दुस्तान से बाहर भी ले जा चुकी है। ऐसी हालत में सरकार के सामने क्या दुश्वारी है कि वह एस्सो से शेयर्ज ख़रीदने के बजाये उस को, और दूसरी फ़ारेन तेल कम्पनियों को भी नैशनलाइज करे ?

श्री देवकान्त बरुआ : इस गवर्नमेंट की पालिसी यह है कि जो कुछ एक्वायर किया जाता है, इस का कम्पेन्सेशन दिया जाता है। माननीय सदस्य ने नैशनलाइज़ेशन की बात कही है। लेकिन अगर हम इन तेल कम्पनियों को लेंगे, तो वे जो तेल ला रही है, वह भी बन्द हो जायेगा।

श्री इसहाक सम्भली : ईरान और सऊदी अरेबिया डायरेक्ट देने के लिए तैयार हैं। क्या डिफ़ीकल्टी है ?

श्री देवकान्त बरुआ : डायरेक्ट देने के लिए किस ने कहा है, कब कहा है, किस को कहा है ?

श्री इसहाक सम्भली : यह अख़बारो मे आ चुका है।

SHRI H. N. MUKERJEE: Sir, do I gather from the Minister's reply that even in the present situation the Government prefers to secure oil through the good offices of an internationally notorious company like the ESSO rather than to a direct negotiation with the oil-producing countries with which we are in close contact?

SHRI D. K. BOROOAH: The ESSO, Caltex and Burmah Shell bring the oil from those producing countries and the price that we are getting from these oil companies is at present less than the price that we are paying to the producing countries.

MR SPEAKER: Next question.

Discussions with Secretary-General of OPEC on Oil Situation

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*6. SHRI K. LAKKAPPA:
SHRI N. K. SANGHI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any discussions were held by the Secretary-General of Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries with the Indian leaders recently; and

(b) if so, whether oil crisis in India figured in these discussions?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI D. K. BOROOAH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The steep rise in the price of crude oil, its impact on the developing countries and the possible ways of meeting the situation were among the subjects discussed with the Secretary-General, Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries.

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the OPEC has made a global assessment of oil prices in view of the situation that has developed in the world. How far would the OPEC decision adversely affect the developing countries like India?

SHRI D. K. BOROOAH: It is a fact that the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries have increased the price and therefore it has an adverse impact on our economy. We are discussing with them to find out whether they could give us cetrain advantages so that we may be in a position to pay for the oil that we get. So far as availability is concerned, they say they will give us oil but the price at which we have to buy it appears to be beyond our resources.

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: Is there any attempt made by the Government of India to improve the situation by entering into bilateral agreements for exchange capital goods and raw materials needed by oil producing countries?

SHRI D. K. BOROOAH: Yes, Sir; we are not only discussing with the OPEC but also with oil producing countries bilaterally; we are already implementing some of the schemes. We have already entered into an arrangement with Iraq. Our Foreign Minister is going to Iran to hold discussions about some kind of a bilateral arrangement which might enable us to buy oil at least by providing lesser foreign exchange than would ordinarily have to be given.

SHRI N. K. SANGHI: In view of the steep rise in the price of crude and the difficult situation created for the developing countries, have the discussions held with the OPEC yielded any result? Will there be a conference of developing countries so that a unified discussion can b held with the oil producing countries and some benefits might be obtained?

SHRI D. K. BOROOAH: I do not want to enter the field of external affairs. But I may say that we would not like to create a climate of confrontation with the oil producing countries. I do not think they will apprecite that. It is the advice of the Secretary General of OPEC that collectively they would try to have some decisions so that the developing countries might be helped. At the same time we have been advised that we should proceed with the different countries bilaterally and not create situation in which there would be a confrontation between the producing countries and the developing countries, as there has been a climate of confrontation between the developed countries and the oil producing countries.

SHRI M RAM GOPAL REDDY: We have been helping and supporting the Arab countries consistently for so many years against Israel. Are they showing any concessions?

MR. SPEAKER: This question does not arise.

SHRI D. K. BOROOAH: Yes, Sir; they have cut off supplies to many western countries but they have been supplying us.

MR. SPEAKER: I said I did not allow this question.

SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY: Why, Sir?

MR. SPEAKER: It is not within the scope of that question You ask a straight question such as: in view of our continued support to Arab countries, do we get any concession? Do not show any motive that you might have. Now the hon. Minister may reply to the question as I have put it, on his behalf.

SHRI D. K. BOROOAH: The Arab countries—of course, there is shades of difference among some of them—have treated us as a friendly country and they have not cut our supplies in any quantity. So far as the price is concerned, some of the countries have given us certain cushion, and it may be that by negotiations and bilateral agreement we will be able to get better terms than what are being received by the western countries.

SHRI S. B. GIRI: The Minister stated that some of the countries have given us concessions in respect of prices. Which are the countries which have given us concessions as compared to the international oil prices?

SHRI D. K. BOROOAH: This was the understanding that those countries would not like it to be disclosed because then there will be pressure from many other countries for similar concessions. So, it would not be advisable to mention the names of those countries in our interest and in their own interest.

Agreement with Iran for Expansion of Madras Refinery

*7. SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any agreement has been reached between India and Iran for the expansion of Madras Refinery; and

(b) if so, the main features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI D. K. BOROOAH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER: Even though the hon. Minister stated "No, Sir" and "does not arise", I would like to know whether there was any discussion with the Iranian Economic Minister, Mr. H. Ansari, regarding the supply of crude oil to our country and the expansion of the Madras Refinery.

SHRI D. K. BOROOAH: Yes, there was discussion about the supply of crude oil to Madras Refinery because a certain percentage of the Madras Refinery is owned by the Iranian Oil Company The agreement which we had with them for the supply of oil is going to expire next year. We thought that they should continue to supply oil to the Madras Refinery.

We discussed with them the question of expansion also. There are two methods of expansion. One is increase of the capacity by certain modifications in the equipment. By that we can increase the capacity from 2.5 million tonnes to 3.3 million tonnes. That is under consideration The other is the expansion of the refinery to a larger size. That was not thought feasible because in any case, even if that oil

is available, we will not be able to buy it at the ruling price.

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER: Has the Government any proposal to establish a petro-chemical complex and fertilizer plant in the vicinity of the Madras Refinery?

MR. SPEAKER: That is a different question. That is not connected with this.

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER: In view of the reply given by the Minister, I tried to put it as my supplementary.

MR. SPEAKER: I do not agree with him. Anyhow, I am going to see how it is connected with the main question.

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER: In the light of the discussion with the Economic Minister of Iran, may I know whether the Government has any proposal to establish a petrochemical complex and fertilizer plant located in the vicinity of the Madras Refinery, with the help of Iranians?

SHRI D K. BOROOAH: There is already a fertilizer plant in the neighbourhood of the Madras Refinery, and any expansion of the Madras Refinery, whether marginal or basic, would certainly reflect on the size of the Madras fertilizer factory. So far as the petrochemical complex is concerned, there was no mention of it.

Complaints Alleging Organisation of Functions for Prime Minister to Lay Foundation Stones on the eve of U.P. Elections

*10. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether complaints have been lodged with the Election Commission that organising functions for the Prime Minister to lay the foundation stones of projects in U.P. which have not been sanctioned in the Fourth or Fifth Plans on the eve of U. P. Elections, amounts to corrupt practice likely to vitiate the election results ; and

(b) if so, action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI N-TIRAJ SINGH CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b). The Election Commission has received a letter from the Hon'ble Member alleging that in the course of election campaign in U.P. the Prime Minister has been laying foundation stones of projects and that this contituted a corrupt practice. The Election Commission has forwarded his letter to the Government. No action has been considered necessary on the part of the Government.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE. Sir, before I put my supplementaries to the hon. Minister, I want to point out to you that in giving the reply, the Minister concerned has misquoted the letter that I had addressed to the Election Commission and which has been forwarded to the Government. In my leter I did not allege that laying foundation-stones by the Prime Minister is a corrupt practice. What I had said was that laying foundation stones of those projects whose sanctions have not been obtained and put in the Fourth Plan is a corrupt practice It has been distorted by the Minister. (Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H. R. GOKHALE): There is no misquoting at all....

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: I have not yet put my supplementary

SHRI H. R. GOKHALE: I am talking of what you have said. There has been no misquoting at all of what the hon. Member had written to the Election Commission. I have no hesitation in reading out that also. There is no question of suppressing anything.

The first part of the complaint of the hon. Member to the Election Commission was about foundation stones being laid by the Prime Minister in U.P. and the other part of the complaint was that as, according to him, these projects were not included in the Plan, it is a corrupt practice. I cannot understand that if they are not included in the Fourth Plan or in the Fifth Plans, that is a corrupt practice and, otherwise, it is not a corrupt practice. The thrust of his question was that foundation stones were being laid in U.P.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: I put my first supplementary. May I know whether it is true that the Supreme Court in one of its judgments has said that developmental activities undertaken on the eve of elections might not be regarded as a corrupt practice under the present law but were certainly an evil practice and that the dividing line between an evil practice and a corrupt practice is a very thin one?

SHRI H. R. GOKHALE. I am aware of the judgment which the hon. Member has quoted and also of another judgment. The question is, even there where the facts are not at all similar as here, the Minister had used a part of the discretionary funds for doing some work in his constituency, on that basis also, the Supreme Court said that under the law, it is not a corrupt practice. The first point is that nothing of that type has happened here So, there is no corrupt practice here. There is no question of any inquiry being held by the Government or by the Election Commission because, under article 329 of the Constitution, the only authority which can decide whether a corrupt practice has been committed or not is the authority prescribed and laid down under a law passed by the Parliament, that is, the Representation of the People's Act.

No question of the Election Commission or the Government making any inquiry at all arises.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: May I know whether it is true that, in the Golden Age in U.P. inaugurated by the Prime Minister's election campaign, from December to 2nd February more than 35 foundation stones of various projects were laid. As an illustration, I would like to know whether in the case of (a) Sone Pump Canal Project, (b) a new eastern U.P. Agricultural University at Faizabad, (c) Phulpur Fertiliser project; and (d) BHEL at Jhansi, necessary sanctions were obtained and if not, does it not constitute a corrupt or evil practice indulged in by the ruling Party to attract the electorate towards the ruling Party in the coming elections?

SHRI H. R. GOKHALE: Assuring but without admitting, that laying of foundation stone is a corrupt practice, the hon. Member's assumption that anything was done after the 17th January is absolutely wrong The Notification calling the elections in U.P. was issued on the 17th January and no foundation was laid after that date.

श्री नरसिंह नारायण पांडे : इस बात को देखते हुए कि स्वतन्त्रता के बाद आज तक उत्तर प्रदेश पिछड़ा रहा है और इन पिछले दो तीन सालों में जो प्लान बने हैं उनमें हमेशा नोटिफिकेशन के पहले फाउन्डेशन से लिया गया है, क्या मंत्री जी इस बात पर विचार करेंगे कि इस प्रकार की जो बातें यहां पर कही जा रही हैं वह पोलिटिकली मोटिवेटेड हैं तथा जान-बूझ कर यू० पी० को बैकवर्ड करने के लिए कही जा रही हैं ? इसमें कौन सी अनजस्टिफाइड चीज है, यह मैं जानना चाहता हूं ? (व्यवधान) मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि स्वतन्त्रता के बाद उत्तर प्रदेश में कितने प्रोजेक्ट लगाए गए और दूसरे प्रदेशों में कितने प्रोजेक्ट लगाए गए ? (व्यवधान)

अध्यक्ष महोदय : अगर आपका चुनाव इस हाउस में जीता जा सकता है तो मैं आराम से बैठा रहूंगा, आप कर लीजिए कोशिश। यह

न हो कि स्पीकर की वजह से आप कहते हार जाये।

SHRI S. A. SHAMIM: The question is of two parts. Part (1) is whether it is a corrupt practice or not. To that the hon. Minister has replied. The other part is......

MR. SPEAKER: Please come to your question.

SHRI S. A. SHAMIM: After all you have heard so much noise on this side, please hear some sense also. The second part is whether these plans were sanctioned and these foundation stones were laid or not. The question says that presumably they were not. The Minister has kept quiet on that.

Secondly, the hon. Minister has said that no foundation stone or no inauguration took place after the 17th. Here I have the issue of *Hindustan Times* dated February 6. Under the caption "Foundations of Electoral Success", it has enumerated the numerous foundation stones and schemes sanctioned—16th, 20th January, 22nd January and so on upto 2nd February. These are the dates when schemes have been inaugurated and foundation stones laid. Will the hon. Minister explain how will he explain these facts?

SHRI H. R GOKHALE: I cannot explain what the newspaper wrote, but I can say what I know.

SHRI S. A. SHAMIM: Were these schemes approved or not?

MR. SPEAKER: He had no notice. He can give only a general answer, not on individual schemes.

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आपके द्वारा माननीय मन्त्री जी से जानना चाहता हूं पिछले तीन महीनों के अन्दर प्रधान मन्त्री द्वारा उत्तर प्रदेश में 35 शिलन्यास किए गए हैं जिनमें काफी ऐसे भी हैं जिनका 4–5 साल पहले शिलान्यास हो चुका था तथा प्रधान मन्त्री ने फिर से शिलान्यास किया है, क्या उन्होंने इस प्रकार के शिलान्यास पिछले तीन चार महीनों में और प्रदेशों में भी किए हैं जो अनेकों सालों से पिछड़े हुए हैं ? दूसरे मैं यह भी जानना चाहता हूं उत्तर प्रदेश में जितने शिलान्यास किए हैं उन पर कितना पैसा खर्च होने वाला है तथा कब तक उन पर कार्य प्रारम्भ होने वाला है ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : क्या कोई ऐसे भी हुए हैं जो सैंग्शन्ड नहीं हुए है, अगर ऐसी शक्ल में मांगतें तो उसके लिए अलग से नोटिस देनी पड़ेगी इसमें तो उठती नहीं है यह बात। इसमे सेंग्शन वाली बात नही है।

SHRI S. A. SHAMIM: It is a part of the question: whether foundation stones of projects which have not been sanctioned in the Fourth or Fifth Plans have been laid.

MR. SPEAKER: He is putting a different question.

सैंग्शन का सवाल ही नही आता है इसमे।

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरा सवाल साफ था।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : साफ तो था लकिन इसमे उठता नही ह।

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : लगभग 35 शिलान्यास किए गये हैं, मैं जानना चाहता हू, तीन चार साल पहले जो शिलान्यास किये जा चुके हैं उन का शिलान्यास फिर से किया गया है तथा जितने शिलान्यास भी किये गये है क्या और भी किसी प्रदेश में पिछले 3–4 महीनों किये गये हैं।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : मैं इसको एलाउ कर दूगा, आप अलग से नोटिस दीजिये।

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : पीछले तीन महीनों में कितने शिलान्यास हुये हैं, इसका जवाब दिया जाय ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आप तो एक जनरल सवाल कर रहे हैं । जो प्रश्न है उसके बारे में पूछिये । और अगर आपको यही बात पूछनी है तो उसके बारे मे आप अलग से प्रश्न कीजिये ।

श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह : अध्यक्ष महोदय, आपने मेरा नाम पुकारा है और मैं खड़ा हूं, लेकिन यह लोग व्यवधान डाल रहे हैं, पहले आप इन को बैठाइये । (**व्यवधान**)

अध्यक्ष महोदय : शोर करने से तो आप अपना सवाल रेलीवेंट नहीं बना सकेंगे ।

श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह : मान्यवर, आपके माध्यम से मै मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूं कि क्या चुनाव के दर्मियान कोई भी जनकल्याण का कार्य करना औचित्य नही रखता है ? और क्या किसी प्रान्त की विकास योजनाओं के बारे में यह कहना कि यह गलत है यह एक भ्रष्ट अभियोग नही है क्या ? किसी प्रान्त में उसके विकास को रोकने का अभियोग लगाना भ्रष्टाचरण है कि नही ? और क्या विरोधी दल का यह भ्रष्ट अभियोग है कि नही, यह बताया जाय । (**व्यवधान**)

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : आप मेरे प्रश्न का जवाब दिलाइये कि पिछले तीन महीनो में प्रधान मंत्री ने उत्तर प्रदेश में कितने शिलान्यास किये । (**व्यवधान**)

अध्यक्ष महोदय : मिनिस्टर के पास कोई ऐनसाइक्लोपीडिया तो नही है जो एक मिनट में सब जगह की आपको सूचना दे दे । आप का सवाल इस से नही उठता है । जो सवाल का नोटिस दिया गया है उसका जवाब लेकर मंत्री जी आये हैं । आप अलग से इसका नोटिस दें अगर अपने सवाल का जवाब चाहते हैं ।

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : बिहार, उड़ीसा भी पिछड़े हुये प्रान्त हैं क्या उनमे भी उतने ही शिलान्यास हुए हैं जितने कि उत्तर प्रदेश में हुए हैं ।

SHRI H. R. GOKHALE: I have already said about this. I have already said that it is not a corrupt practice.

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : अध्यक्ष जी आप मेरे सवाल का जवाब दिलाइये कि कब तक यह योजनायें पूरी हों जायेगी और इनकी कितनी लागत आयेगी ? (**व्यवधान**)

MR. SPEAKER: The question is: whether complaints have been lodged with the Election Commission that organising functions for the Prime Minister to lay the foundation stones of projects in U.P. which have not been sanctioned in the Fourth Fifth Plans on the eve of U.P. Elections amounts to corrupt practice likely to vitiate the election results. How can you relate this question with the question of how many foundations were laid in the last three years? If you had given a proper notice, I could have allowed it

अगर आप उनसे पूछें कि तीन महीनों के अन्दर कितने शिलान्यास हुये हैं तो मिनिस्टर को क्या पता है जब तक कि आप नोटिस न दे । सारे हाउस का टाइम क्यों ले रहें हैं । चेयर का कहना भी नहीं मानते हैं । यह सवाल इलेक्शन कमीशन के पास हुई शिकायत के बारे में पूछा गया है ।

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : आप मेरे सवाल का जवाब दिलाइये कि इनमें कितना रुपया लगने की सम्भावना है ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : अगर आप इसको जरूरत है तो उस बारे में सवाल करते । इस सवाल से यह कैसे पैदा होता है । अगर

भ्रब लोगों को शोर ही करना भौर बाहर भी बाजारों में करना है तो इस डेमोक्रेसी का क्या फायदा है। भ्रगर चेयर कहे भौर ऐक्स-प्लेन करे फिर भी भ्राप न मानें तो कैसे काम चलेगा। क्या भ्राप सोचते हैं कि शोर करने से ही सब काम हो जायेगा।

श्री फूल चन्द वर्मा : मंत्री जी ने कहा कि 17 जनवरी के बाद कोई शिलान्यास नहीं हुआ, जब कि श्री शमीम ने बताया कि 4, 5, 6, 7 भौर 17 फरवरी का शिलान्यास हुये है भौर उन्होने भ्रखबार से इसका हवाला दिया। (**व्यवधान**)

श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह : भ्रध्यक्ष महोदय, यह उत्तर प्रदेश में हार रहे हैं तो यहा चिल्ला रहें हैं 'खिसयानी बिल्ली खम्भा नौचे" वाला कहावत चरितार्थ हो रही है। मैंने जो सवाल पूछा उसका जवाब भी इन्होंने नही सुनने दिया। अगर इनको कुछ करना है तो वहा जाकर करे। लोक सभा के काम मे व्यवधान न डाले। (**व्यवधान**)

भ्रध्यक्ष महोदय . भ्रन्दर इस तरह मे करते है ता बाहर करते होगे। कल भ्राप भी इधर भ्रायेंगे तो क्या इसी तरह मे बोला करेंगे ? भ्राप दोनो को भ्रगर मिनिस्टर बना दे जनसघ की मिनिस्ट्री भ्राये, तो जवाब कैंसे दिया करेंगे। भ्राप बैठिये।

श्री फूल चन्द वर्मा : भ्राप यह बात न कहिये मैं मध्य प्रदेश में मिनिस्टर रहा हू। लेकिन इतने गलत तरीके से काम नही किया है।

भ्रध्यक्ष महोदय : तो इसी तरह से बोला करते थे भ्राप ?

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : भ्रध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरा सवाल बिलकुल सीधा था भ्राप उसका उत्तर दिलाइये (**व्यवधान**)

SHRIMATI ROZA DESHPANDE: I was trying to request these Members that they should at least use some decent language and not convert the whole House into a place for shouting; everybody cannot just go on shouting, because we cannot hear what they want to say. At least, let to reply. But let decency be mainlet the hon Minister reply if he has to reply. But let decency be maintained in this House. As a woman, I would request the Members to use decent language.

SHRI K. S. CHAVDA: She may request the woman Prime Minister to guide her party Members.

SHRIMATI ROZA DESHPANDE: No, I would not.

MR. SPEAKER: I thank Shrimati Roza Deshpande very much. I am very happy that Shrimati Roza Deshpande has come and her speech has started with a quiet and moderating influence. But I think she is sitting in a wrong place—I mean wrong neighbours!

SHRIMATI ROZA DESHPANDE. I am not sitting here on my own, but I have been asked to sit here.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Abuse of Excise concessions by Benzene and Tolune Users

*4 SHRI MADHU LIMAYE Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state

(a) whether users of Benzene and Tolune under Category L-6 are paying excise duty at the rate of 6 per cent on the listed price;

(b) whether the rate for non L-6 category consumer's is very much higher;

(c) whether L-6 category consumers are abusing the excise concession by selling Benzene and Tolune in black-market at very high prices to non L-6 consumers; and

(d) if so, the action taken by Government to curb these mal-practices?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI D. K. BOROOAH) (a). No Sir. Users under category L-6 are paying basic excise duty either at the rate of Rs. 34/- or at the rate of Rs. 150/- per kilo-litre, depending upon whether the benzene toluene are used as solvents in the formulation of pesticidal solution, sprays and suspensions or for other specified industrial uses.

(b) The rate of duty applicable to all others (which include non-L-6 category consumers) is presently Rs. 2,000/- per kilolitre.

(c) This is within the purview of the Department of Revenue in the Ministry of Finance. In a survey conducted by that Department sometime back a few cases of abuse or non-accountal were noticed.

दिल्ली में मिट्टी के तेल का राशन

*8 श्री चन्द्र भाल मणि तिवारी : क्या पेट्रोलियम और रसायन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार का विचार दिल्ली में मिट्टी के तेल का राशन करने का है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(ग) क्या मिट्टी के तेल का राशन होने के पश्चात् अनियमितताओं को रोकने के लिए उचित दण्ड की व्यवस्था भी की जायेगी ?

पेट्रोलियम और रसायन मंत्री (श्री देवकान्त बरुआ) : (क) दिल्ली प्रशासन द्वारा यह सूचित किया गया है कि इस समय उनके पास मिट्टी के तेल को राशन करने के बारे में कोई प्रस्ताव नहीं है। मिट्टी के तेल के वितरण को विनियमित करने हेतु राशन कार्ड को मिट्टी के तेल के डीलरों के पास पंजीकृत करने की एक योजना को चालू किया गया है ;

(ख) चीनी वाली चार युनिट तक राशन कार्ड पर एक पखवाड़े में 4 लीटर मिट्टी का तेल दिया जायेगा। प्रत्येक चीनी के अतिरिक्त युनिट पर एक पखवाड़े में एक लीटर मिट्टी का तेल देने की अनुमति दी जायेगी बशर्ते कि यह 10 लिटर मिट्टी के तेल से अधिक न हों। राशन कार्ड रखने वाले केवल डीलरों से ही मिट्टी का तेल प्राप्त करेंगे जिनके पास राशन कार्ड पंजीकृत है।

(ग) दिल्ली मिट्टी के तेल (निर्यात एवं मूल्य) नियंत्रण आदेश, 1962 के अन्तर्गत डीलरों के विरुद्ध कार्यवाही करने की व्यवस्था है।

Decesion taken on Law Commission's Report on the Improvement in the Service Conditions and Employments of Judges

*9 SHRI DEVINDER SINGH GARCHA:

SHRI K. KODANDA RAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No 312 on the 13th March, 1973 regarding Law Commission report on the improvement in the service conditions nad emoluments of Judges and state:

(a) whether any decision has since been taken on the proposals of the Law Commission for making substantial improvements in the service conditions and emoluments of the Judges; and

(b) if not, the reasons for the delay?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H. R. GOKHALE): (a). The matter is yet under the consideration of the Government.

(b) As the State Governments are primarily concerned with the implementation of the recommendations State Governments have been addressed in the matter. The replies are awaited.

Crash Programme for Extraction of Oil from Coal

*11. SHRI Y. ESWARA REDDY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Government has sanctioned Rs. 39 lakhs for launching crash programme for extraction of oil and chemicals from coal; and

(b) if so, the main features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI D K. BOROOAH): (a) and (b). On the basis of the exploratory studies made so far by the National Committee on Science and Technology and the Planning Commission, it has been decided to set up a group to make a feasibility study for establishing a plant for the manufacture of oil from coal. Necessary funds for this purpose would be made available. Further decisions regarding implementation will be taken on the basis of this report.

Reducing Petrol Allocations for Oil-based Industries

*12 SHRI SUKHDEO PRASAD VERMA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether keeping in view the shortage of petrol in the country Government are considering a proposal to make drastic cut in the fuel allocations of the oil-based industries;

(b) whether Government propose to introduce petrol rationing for the oil-based industries; and

(c) if not, what alternate steps Government propose, to take in this respect?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI D. K. BOROOAH): (a). Whereas Motor Gasoline (Petrol) is used mostly in the Motor Vehicles only, fuel oil is used by the oil based industries. In view of the steep increase in prices of crude oil and petroleum products and the critical furnace oil availability in the world market it has not been possible to meet the furnace oil requirements of the country in full. The Government have, therefore, advised the oil companies to meet upto 90 per cent of the normal off takes of industrial units based on the past offtakes during the months of January and February 1974

(b) and (c). There is no proposal at present to ration furnace oil. However, a Standing Committee has been set up under the chairmanship of Secretary and Director General, Technical Development to regulate furnace oil supplies to the various industries.

Electric Generator for Diesel Locomotive Works, Varanasi

*13. SHRI N. SHIAPPA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether energy crisis has hampered production of locomotives at the Diesel Locomotive Works at Varanasi; and

(b) if so, whether Diesel Locomotive Works is planning to have an electric generator of its own?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a). Yes, Sir.

(b) The Diesel Locomotive Works is planning to install a diesel generating set of 1.5 M.W. approximately to

meet the partial demand of D.L.W. against the maximum demand of 3.8 M.W.

Oil Crisis

*14. SHRI P. GANGADEB:
SHRI D. D. DESAI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Director of British Royal Institute of International Affairs has suggested that India should act quickly on oil crisis;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto; and

(c) whether India has lodged any protests in international forums about price hike by the oil producing countries?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI D. K. BOROOAH): (a). Yes, Sir

(b) and (c). Government are quite alive to the situation and are making intensive efforts at all levels so as to ensure that the crude oil supplies to meet the demand, more particularly of the vital sectors of the economy, are maintained to the extent possible and there are no undue strains on the economy of the country.

Take-over of Burma-Shell by I.O.C.

*15. SHRI C. JANARDHANAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Oil Corporation is taking over Burmah Shell installation in Cochin and also the marketing operation currently done by Burmah Shell in the Area fed by the Cochin Refinery;

(b) if so, the main features thereof; and

(c) the action proposed by Government regarding absorption of the affected employees?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI D. K. BOROOAH): (a). Taking over of Burmah-Shell trade in Cochin supply area and other allied issues such as acquisition of Burmah Shell installation and man-power commensurate with IOC's requirement is under consideration of the Indian Oil Corporation.

(b) and (c). Since the matter is under negotiation between IOC and Burmah-Shell, it will not be possible to provide detailed information at this stage.

Oil and Gas Zones in Cambay Basin

16. SHRI B. S. BHAURA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether several layers of Lime Stone indicating possible oil or gas zones have been encountered in the Cambay Basin; and

(b) if so, the main features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI D. K. BOROOAH): (a) and (b). Several highly fossiliferous Lime Stones layers were encountered in the well drilled recently on the Tarapur structure in the Arabian Sea This well is located in the off-shore extension of the Cambay sedimentary basin. Some of the layers gave indications of the presence of gas during drilling. Two of the layers were tested and the presence of gas was confirmed but it was found to be in non-commercial quantities.

नर्मदा जल विवाद के बारे में प्रधान मंत्री का निर्णय

*18. श्री फूल चन्द वर्मा :
श्री पी० जी० मावलंकर :

क्या **सिंचाई और विद्युत्** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या नर्मदा जल विवाद के बारे में प्रधान मंत्री 1 जनवरी, 1974 को अपना निर्णय घोषित करने वाली थीं; और

(ख) इस निर्णय को घोषित करने में विलम्ब के क्या कारण हैं और उक्त निर्णय कब तक घोषित किये जाने की संभावना है ?

सिंचाई और विद्युत् मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री सिद्धेश्वर प्रसाद) : (क) जी, नहीं ।

(ख) यह बड़ी जटिल समस्या है तथा इसके सभी पहलुओं पर ध्यानपूर्वक विचार किया जा रहा है । यह ठीक-ठीक बताना कठिन है कि पंचाट कब तक घोषित कर दिया जाएगा ।

तेल उत्पादक देशों द्वारा लाभ के बारे में रखी गई शर्तें

*19. श्री श्रीकृष्ण अग्रवाल : क्या **पेट्रोलियम और रसायन** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या मूल्यों में स्थिरता लाने की दृष्टि से कच्चे तेल का उत्पादन करने वाले देशों ने यह शर्त रखी है कि तेल की खपत करने वाले देश अपने अपने देश में तेल कम्पनियों को 100 प्रतिशत से अधिक मुनाफा न लेने दें;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार को जानकारी है कि भारत में तेल कम्पनियां कितना मुनाफा ले रही हैं; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो यह मुनाफा कितने प्रतिशत है और इस बारे में सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है ?

पेट्रोलियम और रसायन मंत्री (श्री देवकान्त बरूआ) : (क) से (ग). सरकार को मिली सूचना के अनुसार तेल कम्पनियों को तेल उत्पादन करने वाले देशों से जिन वाय-बक मूल्यों पर कच्चा तेल उपलब्ध होगा, उन पर अभी बातचीत जारी है । अतः तेल कम्पनियों को होने वाले लाभों की मात्रा का निर्धारण करना सम्भव नहीं है ।

रेलवे के अपने बिजलीघर

*20. डा० लक्ष्मीनारायण पाण्डेय :
श्री ई० वी० विखे पाटिल :

क्या **रेल** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) विभिन्न राज्यों में बिजली के संकट, डीजल तेल के अभाव तथा गाड़ियों के विद्युत् चालन के महत्व को ध्यान में रखते हुए रेलवे ने अपने बिजलीघर बनाने का निर्णय किया है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो तत्सम्बन्धी योजना का प्रारूप क्या है ?

रेल मंत्रालय में उप मंत्री (श्री मोहम्मद शफी कुरेशी) : (क) जी हां ।

(ख) विचाराधीन प्रस्तावों में अपने तीन बिजलीघर स्थापित करना शामिल है जिनमें से एक एक बिजलीघर पश्चिम बंगाल, उत्तर प्रदेश और बिहार में स्थापित किया जायेगा । आर्थिक परिचालन के लिए इनका आपसी सम्बन्ध बिजली बोर्ड की

ग्रिड प्रणाली के साथ होगा ताकि बिजली कर्षण तथा रेलवे की अन्य महत्वपूर्ण संस्थापनाओं को बिजली की सप्लाई सुनिश्चित की जा सके। तपण (चोला) में रेलवे के वर्तमान बिजलीघर की क्षमता का विस्तार करने का भी प्रस्ताव है। इस समय व्यावहारिकता अध्ययन किये जा रहे हैं।

Decline in Railways earnings during December, 1973

1. SHRI SUKHDEO PRASAD VERMA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether earnings of Railways have gone down during the month of December, 1973 as compared to December 1972; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons for the same and the remedial measures Government propose to take in the future in this respect?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) Yes.

(b) (i) The shortfall has been mainly due to disruption in traffic on account of strike by Loco Staff Coal shortage, Bombay bandh etc.,

(ii) The matter is receiving Government's constant attention and such remedial measures as are considered necessary are already being taken from time to time.

Closure of Industrial Units of Faridabad Industrial Complex due to power shortage

2. SHRI SUKHDEO PRASAD VERMA:

Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether most of the Industrial Units of Faridabad Industrial Complex are facing closure due to the power shortage;

(b) whether Faridabad Industries Association have urged the Centre to intervene and to give practical shape to the concept of the North Indian Power grid; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Central Government in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) to (c). With the exception of certain essential industries which have been exempted from a power cut, other industries in the Faridabad Industrial Complex are subject to restrictions of upto 80 per cent in their power consumption. However, there is no apprehension of industries facing closure on this account. The Faridabad Industries Association has urged the establishment of a Northern Regional Grid, so as to enable power shortages to be shared between different States. A Regional Gird, however, iis not designed for the purpose of sharing of shortages, but is meant for optimising utilization of generating capacity in the region. In the Northern Region all the States, except for the Kashmir Valley, are already interconnected and generation is, to the extent possible, being optimised Haryana is being given relief from the neighbouring systems as a consequence of the availability of the Grid.

राज्यों में चुनावों के लिये 23 सूत्री आचार-संहिता

3. श्री चन्दूलाल चन्द्राकर : क्या विधि, न्याय और कम्पनी कार्य यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या राज्यों के आगामी चुनावों के लिए 23-सूत्री आचार-संहिता बनाई गई है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो तत्सम्बन्धी मुख्य बातें क्या हैं ;

(ग) क्या इस आचार-संहिता से विरोधी दल सहमत हुए हैं; और

(घ) यदि नही, तो अपना विरोध व्यक्त करने के लिए उन्होंने क्या सुझाव दिये हैं ?

विधि, न्याय और कम्पनी कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री नीतिराज सिंह चौधरी): (क) और (ख) जी हां। निर्वाचन आयोग द्वारा विरचित "राजनीतिक दलो और उम्मीदवारो के मार्गदर्शन के लिए आदर्श आचरण-संहिता" की एक प्रति सदन के पटल पर रख दी गई है। [ग्रन्थालय मे रखी गई। देखिए संख्या LT—6151/73]

(ग) यह आदर्श संहिता, जिसमे वास्तविक अनुभव पर आधारित कुछ प्रवर्धन भी है, आयोग द्वारा पहले जारी की गई आचरण संहिताओं पर आधारित है।

(घ) निर्वाचन आयोग को किसी राजनीतिक दल से ऐसे कोई सुझाव प्राप्त नही हुए हैं, जिनमे संहिता के प्रति विरोध प्रकट किया गया हो।

देश के विभिन्न भागों में 'बंद' के कारण रेलवे यातायात में गतिरोध

4. श्री चन्द्रलाल चन्द्राकर : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या देश के विभिन्न भागो मे अधिक राशन की माग के समर्थन मे आह्वान किये गये 'बंद' के परिणामस्वरूप रेलवे यातायात मे गतिरोध उत्पन्न हुआ था, और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इन 'बंदों' के कारण रेलवे को कितनी हानि हुई ?

रेल मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री मुहम्मद शफी कुरेशी) . (क) जी हां।

(ख) इन बंदों के कारण यातायात में गिरावट आने के परिणामस्वरूप रेलवे राजस्व की कितनी हानि हुई, इसका ठीक-ठीक अनुमान लगाना आसान नही है। किन्तु उपलब्ध सूचना के अनुसार, गम्भीर रूप से प्रभावित रेलों पर, आमदनी से लगभग 70 लाख रुपये की कमी हुई।

Electrification of Ernakulam-Trivandrum Railway Line

5 SHRI VAYALAR RAVI. Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any delegation of Kerala Ministers headed by the Chief Minister met the Union Minister for Railways in the month of January, 1974 and discussed with him the matter regarding the electrification of Ernakulam-Trivandrum Railway line;

(b) if so, the gist thereof and whether the Kerala Government have assured adequate supply of electricity for this purpose at cheapest rate available in the country, and

(c) if so, the reaction of the Central Government thereto and the steps taken in that regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD SHAFI QURESHI) (a) Yes.

(b) The Chief Minister of Kerala pointed out in the meeting that the State Minister for Transport and Electricity had written several letters to the Minister for Railways, regarding electrification of Railway lines in the Kerala State Further he desired to reconsider the proposal in the light of the present oil crisis. He also assured adequate supply of power for electric traction at reasonable rates.

(c) Due to law density of traffic and the heavy capital investment required, electrification of Ernakulam—Trivandrum section is not considered economically justified, in preference to trunk routes.

Proposal re: distribution of electricity in Kerala through village Panchayats

6. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Kerala has submitted any proposal for the distribution of electricity in the villages through the village Panchayats; and

(b) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) No, Sir

(b) Does not arise.

Understanding between All-India Loco Running Staff Association and Railway Ministry

7. SHRI RAMKANWAR:
SHRI S. C. SAMANTA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the All-India Loco Running Staff Association which had resorted to go-slow tactics for pressing certain demands of the employees, has called off its agitation; and

(b) if so, the basis of understanding between the All-India Loco Running Staff Association and the Railway Ministry?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI (MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

Average losses due to ticketless travelling

8. SHRI RAM KANWAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any assessment has been made recently about the average losses which the Railway exchequer sustains owing to ticketless travelling;

(b) if so the salient features thereof; and

(c) whether any new preventive measures have been formulated in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) and (b). A comprehensive survey to assess the extent of ticketless/irregular travel on Indian Railways is underway.

(c) Checking ticketless travel is a continuouos. process Apart from regular checks special and surprise drives are also launched from time to time to check this evil.

Strike by Loco Running Staff

9. SHRI RAM KANWAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Loco Running Staff throughout the country went on strike recently;

(b) whether as a result the entire Railway administration was paralysed;

(c) the reasons for the Railway staff going on strike; and

(d) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) A section of the loco running staff went on illegal strike on Western Northern,

Central and S. E. Railways only in the month of December, 1973.

(b) No.

(c) Alleged non-implementation of assurances given to the loco running staff earlier.

(d) The Government are of the view that the illegal strike of Loco running staff was unwarranted as the Loco Running Staff Grievances Committee functioning under the Chairmanship of he Depuy Miniser of Railways, has been looking into the grievances of the loco running staff.

Threat of agitation by All India Loco Running Staff Association for non-implementation of assurances

10. DR. H. P. SHARMA:
SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state.

(a) whether Government's attention had been drawn to the Statement by the President of the All-India Loco-Running Staff Association on January 22, 1974, threatening another agitation on grounds of alleged non-implementation of the assurances given by the Minister to them on December 28, 1973;

(b) if so, the precise nature of the allegations; and

(c) the steps since taken to avert further agitation by loco-running staff?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) to (c). The statement referred to alleged that the Railway Ministry was resorting to delaying tactics in implementing certain assurances said to have been given by the Minister for Railways at the meeting of the Loco Running Staff Grievances Committee held on 28th December, 1973. This statement was promptly contradicted through a Press release issued on the 23rd January 1974.

Agreement with U.S.S.R. for import of kerosene oil and fertilizers

11. DR. H. P. SHARMA:
SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a trade protocol was signed with the U.S.S.R. on the 21st January, 1974 for import of more kerosene, sun flower oil and fertilisers from that country;

(b) if so, the main features of the protocol; and

(c) the terms for import of fertilisers and kerosene incoporated therein and the quantum of each item to be so imported?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) Yes

(b) and (c). It will not be in the public interest to disclose the contents of the trade plan provisions

Demand for increase in crude oil prices by Burmah Shell and Esso

12. DR. H. P. SHARMA:
PROF. MADHU DANDEVATE:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Burmah Shell and Esso requested Government for an upward revision of the crude oil price by over 100 per cent from January 1, 1974 pending final decision on price hike of this item;

(b) if so, the gist of their demand and the reasons adduced in support thereof; and

(c) Government's decision thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STAE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir. Burmah-Shell and Esso have requested Government for an upward revision of the crude price from January 1, 1974.

(b) and (c). Their main demand is for an increase in the price of crude oil that they import into the country as a result of the escalation of crude prices in the Gulf region. The matter is under consideration of Government.

Cancellation of trains due to shortage of coal

13. DR H P SHARMA:
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether last year a number of Railway trains had to be cancelled owing to shortage of coal;

(b) if so, the number of train services cancelled, zone-wise on this account during the last 4 months;

(c) estimated monthly loss suffered by Railways due to coal shortage; and

(d) the steps taken to ensure adequate and timely supply of coal for Railway services?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) Yes.

(b) and (c). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha in due course.

(d) Close co-ordination is being maintained with the coal producing authorities for augmenting suplies of steam coal.

Increase in prices of furnace Oil and lubricants

14. SHRI SHRIKISHAN MODI:
SHRI ONKAR LAL BERWA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether prices of Furnace oil and lubricants have been increased recently, and

(b) if so, the question of increase, the reasons therefor and the impact thereof on industry and power plants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN). (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) (i) The quantum of the increase on Furnace Oil with effect from 23rd January, 1974 is about Rs. 232.00 per KL.

(ii) The prices of Secondary Grade Lubricating Oils/Greases were increased by Rs. 500/- per M.T. (exclusive of Excise duty) with effect from 23rd January, 1974.

(iii) The ex-Refinery prices of 21 Lube Base Stocks were increased by Rs. 404.40 per M.T. and those of T.O.B.S. by Rs. 337/- per M.T. with effect from 23rd January, 1974

(iv) These increases were necessitated by steep increases in the cost of crude oil with effect from 1st January, 1974.

(v) Furnace Oil and Lubricants are used in power generation and in various industries for the manufacture of a very wide range of finished products. As such it is difficult to assess the impact of the price rise on industry and power plants.

Cases under consideration of M.R.T.P. Commission

15. SHRI MADHU LIMAYE: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the cases under consideration of the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission at present;

(b) whether any matters have been withheld from the Commission by the decision of Government and clearance for projects given without reference to the Commission;

(c) if so, the gist of the cases mentioned in parts (a) and (b);

(d) whether any matters have been or are sought to be withdrawn by any companies from the Commission's consideration; and

(e) if so, the broad outlines of these matters?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA): (a) and (c) A statement showing the cases under Sections 21 and 22 of the MRTP Act referred to the Commission for enquiry and report, pending before it is laid on the Table of the House. Another statement indicating the Restrictive Trade Agreements now under consideration of the Commission is also laid on the Table of the House.

(b) It is not mandatory under the scheme of the MRTP Act for the Central Government to refer all the applications under Chapter III to the Commission The Act envisages that the Central Government may refer to the Commission only those applications under Section 21—23 were in the Central Government's opinion an order cannot be passed without a further enquiry.

(d) and (e). A Statement showing the names of the companies whose applications under Sections 21, 22 and 23 of the MRTP Act were withdrawn by the applicant companies, is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

Cases under Sections 21 and 22 of the Monopolies & restrictive trade practices Act 1969 pending before the MRTP Commission.

Sl. No.	Name of the undertaking	Section under which referred
1.	India Pistons Limited	21(3)(b)
2.	Atul Products Limited	Do
3.	Do.	Do
4.	Anil Starch Products Limited	22(3)(b)
5.	Escorts Limited	Do.

STATEMENT

Sl. No.	Name of the company/Companies/firms complained of
1.	Incheck Tyres Limited and 7 other tyre companies.
2.	The Gramophone Co. of India Limited.
4.	Hindustan Pilkington Glass Works Ltd. and three others Co.
4.	National Tobacco Company of India Limited.
5.	Allied Distributors and Co. and Bengal Potteries Ltd.
6.	American Universal Electrical (India) Ltd.
7.	The Association of Men Made Fiore Industry and 8 others.
8.	Polydor of India Ltd.
9.	Union Carbide India Ltd.
10.	Ashok Leyland Limited.
11.	Tata Engineering and Locomotive Co. Ltd.

STATEMENT

Statement of cases in which the companies concerned withdrew their proposals the same were referred to the Monopolies & restrictive trade practices commission.

Sl. No.	Name of the Undertaking	Section under which referred
1.	J. Stone & Co. (India) Pvt. Ltd.	21(3) (b)
2.	Teleradd (Pvt.) Ltd.	Do.
3.	Atul Products Ltd.	Do.
4.	India Linoleum Ltd.	Do.
5.	Century Spg. & Mfg., Co. Ltd.	Do.
6.	Gwalior Rayon Silk Mfg. (Wvg. Co. Ltd.) .	22(3)(b)
7.	Shri Ambica Mills Ltd. . .	Do.
8.	Lucas TVS Ltd.	23(6)

Utilisation of Ravi Waters under Indus Water Treaty

16. SHRI MADHU LIMAYE: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether this country has not been able to utilise the Ravi waters allocated to India under the Indus Water Treaty;

(b) what, if any, amount was paid to Pakistan for securing right to these waters;

(c) the potential loss incurred by this country as a result of non-utilisation of these waters to-date; and

(d) the reasons for not taking up rapid construction of projects for damming the Ravi river like Theim dam or any other alternative project?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) Except for the flood waters during monsoons, the waters of Ravi are being utilised in India. On completion of the Beas Dam at Pong, and with the help of the existing Madhopur Beas Link most of the monsoon excess will also be utilized, leaving only about 15 per cent of the total flows going waste during the monsoons. The Theim Dam Project on river Ravi will enable harnessing the total flows.

(b) No amount as such was paid to Pakistan for securing rights, over the waters of the three Eastern rivers. India got these rights as a result of

the Treaty finalised in 1960. India, however, contributed a sum of Rs. 98.36 crores through the World Bank, towards the cost of replacement works in Pakistan

(c) No loss is suffered on this account though the utilisation of the remaining waters would undoubtedly benefit the country.

(d) The clearance of the Thein Dam Project has not been possible due to lack of consensus among the concerned States in respect of certain inter-State aspects

Rise in prices of bunker oil at Indian and International Ports

17. SHRI MADHU LIMAYE:
SHRI GAJADHAR MAJHI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been an unprecedented rise in the prices of bunker oil at Indian as well as international ports;

(b) if so, the extent of this rise at important ports handling Indian commerce;

(c) whether any levy or surcharge has been imposed by the Indian and foreign shipping companies because of this increase in bunker oil price; and

(d) its impact on import and export trade?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) and (b). With effect from 13th December 1973 the prices of Furnace Oil, Light Diesel Oil and High Speed Diesel Oil supplied to ships as Bunker Fuel were increased three fold from the level of the prices prevailing on 12th December 1973 at all Indian ports, and with effect from 16th December 1973 the prices ruling on 15th December, 1973 were doubled The sharp increases in Bunker prices were necessitated by the increase in prices and non-availability of the product in the adjoining ports and also the sharp increase in the price of imported Furnace Oil. The price increases were intended to minimise the off-take of Bunker Fuel at Indian ports.

These increases were not made applicable to the following:—

(i) Vessels belonging to Indian Navy and Port Trusts.

(ii) Fishing crafts.

(iii) All vessels permitted by Director General (Shipping) to carry coastal cargo and/or passengers and performing coastal voyages between Indian ports excepting vessels on single or consecutive voyage charter basis

With effect from 31st January 1974 these prices were reduced and fixed at Bombay Port as under:—

	US $ per M.T.
Furnace Oil	130 00
Light Diesel Oil	170 00
High Speed Diesel Oil	210 00

(c) Indian as well as foreign Shipping lines/Conferences announce surcharges from time to time, some of these have been revised upwards during the period from 1st December 1973 to 16th January 1974 No precise relationship can be established between the increase in Bunker Oil prices at the Indian ports and the aforesaid revisions.

(d) Foreign Flag vessels carry a very wide range of products from/to various countries to/from Indian ports. Since this involves various industries/trades no definite indication can be given of the impact of these increases on Import/Export trade.

Import of crude Oil in 1974

18. SHRI MADHU LIMAYE:

SHRI R. S. PANDEY:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) what is Government's programme for the import of crude oil for its various Refineries in the year 1974;

(b) the names of the countries from which crude oil will be imported and the share of each of these countries in this import;

(c) the likely prices that will be paid for this import to the various countries;

(d) whether it is a fact that private oil refineries are threatening Government with a cut back in their crude imports; and

(e) if so, the steps taken by Government to counter this threat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) and (b). Government at present envisage an import of about 16 million tonnes of crude oil—9.55 million tonnes from Iran, 2.80 million tonnes from Iraq and 3.85 million tonnes from Saudi Arabia.

(c) In view of the present uncertain conditions, it is too early to give any precise indication of the prices for the import of crude oil.

(d) and (e). With effect from 1st January, 1974 the price of crude oil has increased steeply. The main problem, therefore, is not of the availability of crude oil but of meeting the exorbitant cost. The oil companies have indicated that if their overall availability of crude ol was reduced, their imports into India would be affected. The situation, however, is still fluid. Government are, however keeping a continuous watch on the situation.

Kerala's scheme regarding checking of floods in Kerala

19. SHRIMATI BHARGAVI THANKAPPAN: Wll the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Kerala have suggested any scheme to the Centre to check the floods in the State; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) and (b). The Government of Kerala had formulated in 1963, a draft plan for flood control in the State at an estimated cost of Rs. 22.4 crores. The draft plan had been examined in the Central Water and Power Commission and the State Government had been requested to revise the plan taking into account the experience of floods subsequent to 1963. The revised plan has not yet been received from the State Government. Pending finalisation of the Plan, protection measures as considered necessary in the vulnerable areas, are being implemented as part of the State Plan.

भारत को रूस से पेट्रोल की सप्लाई

20. श्री जनेश्वर भाल मनी त्रिपाठी : क्या पेट्रोलियम और रसायन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या भारत को रूस से और अधिक पेट्रोल मिलने की सम्भावना है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो तत्सम्बन्धी प्रस्ताव की मुख्य बातें क्या हैं; और

(ग) रूस से इस सहायता से पूर्व जो कमी होती थी उसकी तुलना में अब भी कितने प्रतिशत कमी रह जायेगी ?

पेट्रोलियम और रसायन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री शाहनवाज खां) : (क) से (ग).—भारत रूस से किसी प्रकार का पेट्रोल (मोटर स्पिरिट) आयात नही करता है ।

Amendment to Delhi Electric Control Order for Supply of Power to Slum Dwellers

21. SHRI DEVINDER SINGH GARCHA:

Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 5209 on the 18th December, 1973 regarding amendment to Delhi Electric Control Order for supply of power to slum dwellers and state:

(a) the steps being taken by Government to provide electricity to the residents of jhuggi jhonpri and slums dwellers by amending the existing provisions of the Delhi Electric Control Order; and

(b) the reasons for delay in taking steps in this direction?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) and (b). It has been reported by the Delhi Administration that the matter is still under consideration.

Uneconomic Railway Lines

22. SHRI DEVINDER SINGH GARCHA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1358 on the 20th November, 1973 regarding uneconomic Railway lines and state:

(a) the total losses suffered by uneconomic Railway lines including dividend payment to General Revenues during the last three years; and

(b) the concrete and positive steps taken to improve the situation on these Railway lines during the last year?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) The total losses suffered on uneconomic branch lines, excluding dividend payments to the General Revenues during the years 1970-71 and 1971-72 were as under:

Year	Rs. in crores
1970-71	8 71
1971-72	9.88

The amount of loss for the year 1972-73 is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

From 1.4 71, the capital cost on uneconomic branch lines is exempted from payment of dividend. The amount of dividend paid in 1970-71 is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House

(b) A statement showing the steps taken to reduce the loss in the working of the uneconomic branch lines is laid on the table of the House.

Statement

Statement showing steps taken to reduce the losses on the uneconomic branch lines

Some of the measures taken to improve the earning and to reduce the working expenses of the uneconomic branch lines are indicated below:-

(1) The question of converting certain narrow-gauge lines into broad gauge is being considered.

(2) Strengthening of the track of certain narrow-gauge lines is being considered with a view to increasing the speed and the load of trains.

(3) Rolling stock is being replaced on a phased programme basis.

(4) One-engine system of working has been introduced on certain sections.

(5) On certain narrow-gauge lines block stations have been downgraded and a few others have been closed for goods traffic.

(6) Over certain narrow gauge lines train services have been curtailed.

(7) Concessional rates have been quoted with a view to capturing additional traffic

(8) Close liasion is maintained with industries located in the areas served by the uneconomic branch lines with a view to induce them to use rail facilities to the maximum extent.

(9) Intensive checks are conducted to combat ticketless travel

(10) Split shift duties have been introduced at certain stations

(11) Conversion of passenger trains into mixed trains has been restored to on certain sections.

(12) Feasibility of introducing dieselisation on certain sections is under examination.

Clearance of Pending Major Irrigation Projects for Punjab

23. SHRI DEVINDER SINGH GARCHA:

Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the major irrigation projects for Punjab which are pending clearance by the Centre; and

(b) the reasons for delay and the time by which they are expected to be cleared?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) and (b). Only one major irrigation scheme "Non Perennial Irrigation in U. B. D. C. Tract" costing about Rs. 6 crores was received. The State Government is already going ahead with the execution of this project, and are likely to spend about Rs.3 crores by the end of 1973-74. Formal clearance to the project is pending for want of revised estimates from the State Government.

Impact of Oil Crisis on India's Balance and Payments Position

24. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the present oil crisis is likely to affect adversely our balance and payments position; and

(b) if so, what steps are taken to push vigorously programme of oil exploration in the country and greater use of other domestically available sources of energy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Based on a techno-economic feasibility study made by a joint team of Oil & Natural Gas Commission and the Soviet experts, it has been decided:

(i) to intensify exploratory work in new areas so as to obtain information for assessing hydrocarbon potential in these areas; and

(ii) to maximise the efficiency and minimise the cost by using sophisticated equipments and techniques wherever necessary as would enable drilling of 1.47 million metres for establishing additional recoverable reserves of 70 million tonnes of oil and achieving a production rate of 8.42 million tonnes during 1978-79.

Planning Commission have set up a number of Working Groups to quickly identify the measures to be taken in various fields for reducing the consumption of different petroleum products through substitute fuels and also achieving maximum operational efficiency in various industrial units and transport undertakings including the railways.

Take-over of other Foreign Oil Companies on the pattern of ESSO

25. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE:
SHRI P. GANGADEB:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the action of Government in taking over 74 per cent of the equity shares and ownership of all ESSO operations in India would also be extended to other foreign oil companies in India; and

(b) if so, which will be such foreign oil companies and the time by which such action will be effected?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) and (b). As soon as the final agreement with Esso is reached, it is proposed to initiate similar discussions with other foreign oil companies in India *viz.*, Burmah-Shell and Caltex. It is not posible to indicate the time by which these discussions will be finalised.

House Building Loans to Railway Employees in Bhusawal Division (Central Railway)

26. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) how many Railway employees in the Bhusawal Division of the Central Railway have been sanctioned loans for the purchase of land for house building;

(b) in how much time the employees concerned have received the sanctioned loans; and

(c) whether there was any delay in some cases and if so, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) Nil.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Drilling operation by O and N G C

27. SHRI Y. ESWARA REDDY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) the places where the drilling operations by O&NGC have been started or are proposed to be started soon; and

(b) the results of the operation in different places?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) The O & N G C has conducted drilling operations at various

places in the States of Gujarat, Assam Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Bihar, West Bengal, Tripura, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Pondicherry and also in the Aliabet West Area in the Gulf of Cambay and Tarapur and Bombay High areas in the Arabian Sea.

The O&NGC expects to conduct drilling operations in other parts of Gujarat, Assam, Jammu and Kashmir, Tripura, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and Arabian Sea and also to start drilling operations in the Cachar area of Assam in the near future.

(b) The drilling operations have so far led to the discovery of commercial oil and natural gas fields in Gujarat and Assam only.

Linking of Jammu and Kashmir with Northern Power Grid

28. SHRI Y. ESWARA REDDY: Will the Minister of IRRIGATIAN AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Jammu and Kashmir Government propose to link the State with Northern Power Grid; and

(b) if so, the main features thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) and (b). A 220 KV line (to be operated initially at 132 KV) between Udhampur in Jammu & Kashmir and Sarna in the Punjab is under construction as an inter-State link under a Centrally Sponsored Scheme. The entire line is being constructed by the Jammu & Kashmir authorities and is likely to be completed by October, 1974.

Changes made in Construction of Tube Railway in Calcutta

29. SHRI Y. ESWARA REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the changes made in the procedure for the construction of Tube Railway in Calcutta by Metropolitan Transport Projects Management; and

(b) if so, the reasons and salient features thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) On a small portion of the line in the Maidan area a change in the method of construction is under contemplation of the Railway Ministry. But this is not a major change.

(b) Instead of 'cut and cover' work with earth side slopes, the proposed method is 'cut & cover' work with vertical sides held by concrete walls.

Setting up Coal-Based Power Plants in West Bengal

30. SHRI Y. ESWARA REDDY: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of continuing power crisis, the West Bengal Government have requested the Centre for setting up coal-based power plants; and

(b) if so, the main features thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) and (b). A scheme for the establishment of a coal based thermal power station in the vicinity of Farakka Barrage giving a benefit of 110 MW generating capacity during the Fifth Plan period has been included in the Fifth Five Year Plan in the Central Sector.

Agreement with USSR for Oil Exploration in India

31. SHRI SUKHDEO PRASAD VERMA:
SHRI M. KATHAMUTHU:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether an agreement has been reached between India and U.S.S.R. to explore prospective and prognostic oil and gas reserve in the country; and

(b) if so, the broad outlines thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) A contract has been signed between the Oil and Natural Gas Commission and V/O Techno export of USSR under which the latter will render technical assistance in estimating the prospective reserves of oil and natural gas in India's various 'sedimentary basins and drawing up plans for exploration work in these basins.

(b) The Technical assistance will be in the shape of provision of the services of Soviet specialists who will estimate the prospective reserves and draw up plans for exploration work with the help of Indian technical personnel of the ONGC. Such of the laboratory work and scientific investigation which cannot be done in India, will be carried out in USSR separate contracts to be concluded for the purpose.

The work is to be completed within a period of 2 years from the date of arrival of the Soviet specialists in India.

Negotiations with Iran for Crude for Madras Refinery

32. SHRI N. SHIVAPPA:
SHRI D. D. DESAI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has sought additional crude from Iran for Madras refinery; and

(b) whether a new Petro-chemical complex is being set up with Iranian collaboration?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The matter is under discussion with the Iranian authorities.

Introduction of Power Rationing

34. SHRI P. GANGEDEB:
SHRI D. D. DESAI:

Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether shortage of power will continue in the initial years of the Fifth Five Year Plan;

(b) whether Government are formulating an effective system of power rationing, and

(c) whether power rationing will ensure minimum loss to the national economy?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) A shortage of power is expected to be experienced in several States during the initial years of the Fifth Five Year Plan.

(b) and (c). The State Governments are responsible for allocating the available power to different users. The Central Government has, however, sent guidelines to the State

Governments suggesting a rational system of priorities so as to minimise the loss to the national economy.

Import of Crude and Diesel Oil from Russia and other Countries

35. SHRI P. GANGADEB:
SHRI PUROSHOTTAM KAKODKAR:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India had asked USSR to supply crude and diesel oil;

(b) if so, whether U.S.S.R. has made any commitment; and

(c) if not, which other countries India has approached for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) and (b). USSR has offered one million tonnes of Kerosene Oil and one lakh tonnes of H.S. D during 1974 under the Trade Plan. The IOC has, accordingly, finalised a contract for these quantities with the Russians. However, there is no proposal at present for import of crude oil from that country.

(c) The Government are in touch with several oil producing countries for the supply of Crude Oil.

Negotiations with Iraq and Kuwait on Oil Crisis

36. SHRI P. GANGADEB:
SHRI V. MAYAVAN:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any talks were held recently with Iraq and Kuwait on oil crisis;

(b) whether any agreement was reached; and

(c) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) to (c). Discussions have been initiated with the oil producing countries on a bi-lateral basis. The discussions are still continuing and no final conclusions have been reached.

Measures to Curb Consumption of Petroleum Products

37. SHRI C. JANARDHANAN:
SHRI VAYALAR RAVI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have asked State Governments to take urgent measures for economising consumption of furnace oil and other petroleum products; and

(b) if so, the main features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) and (b). State Governments have been advised of the critical availability of Furnace Oil and other petroleum products in the country and that the oil companies have been advised to supply FO to the extent of 90 per cent of the normal requirements of Industrial units based on past offtakes. A committee has also been formed under the chairmanship of Secretary and Director General, Technical Development which will also take urgent measures for economising the consumption of furnace oil and other petroleum products by the Industries.

Introduction of Petrol Rationing

38. SHRI C. JANARDHANAN:
SHRI RANA BAHADUR SINGH:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any decision to introduce petrol rationing;

(b) if so, the main features thereof;

(c) the reasons for delay in taking a firm decision in the matter; and

(d) what are the reactions of the State Governments to the proposal for such rationing?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise in view of (a) above.

(d) Most of the State Governments have drawn up Contingency Plans for introducing rationing of petrol at short notice.

Supply of Cauvery River Water to Bangalore

39. SHRI C. JANARDHANAN:
SHRI Y. ESWARA REDDY:

Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether arrangements to supply Cauvery river water to Bangalore city have been finalised; and

(b) if so, the main features thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) and (b). The Government of Karnataka have reported that the Stage I of Cauvery Water Supply Scheme envisaging the supply of an additional 30 million gallons per day to the city of Bangalore from the Cauvery source, and costing about Rs. 35.72 crores is almost complete, except for some ancilliary protective works like surge-suppression devices etc. which are also in advanced stages of completion. The Government of Karnataka have stated that the pipe line has been charged from 1-2-1974 and water is already being pumped at the rate of 10 M.G.D. which will be gradually increased to 30 M.G.D. and that the formal commissioning of the Scheme will be done very shortly.

Seismic Surveys by O. & N.G.C.

40. SHRI B. S. BHAURA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) the structures where the Seismic Surveys are being carried out by the Oil and Natural Gas Commission;

(b) whether drilling has commenced in all these structures; and

(c) if so, the main features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) The ONGC is carrying out seismic surveys in Gujarat, Brahmaputra Valley of Upper Assam, the Tripura-Cachar region, West Bengal, Orissa, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Rajasthan, Punjab and Uttar Pradesh.

(b) Drilling has been going on in various areas of Gujarat, Brahmaputra Valley of Upper Assam, Tamil Nadu and Rajasthan for the last few years. Drilling has also been carried out in various areas of West Bengal, Punjab and Uttar Pradesh in the past. In the Tripura area, drilling is in progress.

(c) The seismic surveys conducted in the above mentioned areas have led to the discovery of more than 135 structures. Drilling has been completed or is in progress, on 123 of the structures, to test their oil/gas potentiality. 110 of the structures have been tested and of these, 25 have been found oil bearing and 6 gas bearing.

Measures to check presence of Kerosene in Petrol

41. SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN:
SHRI VASANT SATHE:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have brought out any poster which may suggest an easy method of detecting the presence of Kerosene oil in Petrol; and

(b) the steps Government have taken to check samples of petrol at various retail outlets and action taken against the offenders?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) Government has asked all oil companies to display posters at their Retail Outlets to educate the motoring public of simple tests which lead to detection of adulteration.

(b) In case of suspected adulteration, samples are taken for tests and action taken against the offenders by the State Governments.

आदिवासियों द्वारा मेघनगर और उदयगढ़ रेलवे स्टेशनों के बीच जनता एक्सप्रेस गाड़ी को लूटने का प्रयास

42. श्री फूल चन्द वर्मा : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि दिसम्बर, 1973 में मध्य प्रदेश के मेघनगर और उदयगढ़ स्टेशनों के बीच जनता एक्सप्रेस गाड़ी को लूटने का प्रयास किया गया था; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसका सम्पूर्ण ब्यौरा क्या है ?

रेल मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री मोहम्मद शफी कुरेशी) (क) और (ख) जी हां । 19-12-73 को पश्चिम रेलवे के रतलाम मण्डल में दोहद/मेघ नगर स्टेशनों से कुछ स्थानीय भील 23 डाउन जनता एक्सप्रेस में चढ़ गये । लगभग 19.14 बजे, (ख) जब गाड़ी मेघनगर और उदयगढ़ स्टेशनों के बीच आ रही थी तो उन लोगों ने खतरे की जंजीर खींच ली और कि० मी० 576/2-13 पर गाड़ी खड़ी कर दी, जहां उनके स्वार्थी संबंधी प्रतीक्षा कर रहे थे । भीलों ने जो तेज हथियारों से लैस थे, गाड़ी के अगले सामानयान को तोड़ दिया और उसमें रखे पैकेजों को उतारना शुरू कर दिया । साथ के सवारी डिब्बे के कुछ यात्रियों के आपत्ति करने पर, भीलों ने उन पर तेज हथियारों से हमला कर दिया और पत्थर मारा जिसके फलस्वरूप कुछ खिड़कियों के शीशे टूट गये और 8 यात्री घायल हो गये । घायल यात्रियों में से 5 को प्राथमिक उपचार के बाद जाने की अनुमति दे दी गयी किन्तु एक को, जिसे गम्भीर चोटें आयी थी, रतलाम के सिविल अस्पताल में दाखिल करा दिया गया ।

भीलों ने गाड़ी के अगले सामानयान से लगभग 10,048 रुपये मूल्य के 41 पैकेज और यात्रियों के कुछ निजी सामान उड़ा लिया ।

रेलवे सुरक्षादल और सरकार रेलवे पुलिस ने तुरन्त कार्रवाई की और लगभग 9,748/-रुपये मूल्य के चुराये गये परेषण और 6,000 रुपये मूल्य के यात्रियों के सामान बरामद कर लिये ।

रतलाम की सरकारी रेलवे पुलिस ने भारतीय दण्ड संहिता की धारा 397 और भारतीय रेलवे अधिनियम की धारा 128 के अधीन एक मामला दर्ज कर लिया है । मामले की जांच पड़ताल की जा रही है । जिस

खण्ड पर यह घटना हुई वहां पुलिस द्वारा कड़ी गश्त लगायी जा रही है जिसकी मदद रेलवे सुरक्षा दल कर रहा है। प्रभावित खण्ड पर चलने वाली सवारी गाड़ियों में मार्ग-रक्षक भी चल रहे हैं।

आयात किये गये और बेचे गये पेट्रोल की प्रति लिटर कीमत

43. **श्री फूल चन्द वर्मा :** क्या पेट्रोलियम और रसायन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) 1971, 1972, 1973 और 31 जनवरी, 1974 तक क्रमश: देश में तेल का प्रति लीटर किस कीमत पर आयात किया गया; और

(ख) इन वर्षों के दौरान इसे प्रति लीटर किस कीमत पर बेचा गया ?

पेट्रोलियम और रसायन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री शाहनवाज खां) : (क) पिछले कुछ वर्षों से पेट्रोल का आयात नहीं किया जा रहा है।

(ख) विभिन्न स्थानों में मोटर स्प्रिट (पेट्रोल) के अधिकतम मूल्य भी भिन्न-भिन्न है। ये पत्तन नगरों/परिष्करणशालाओं तथा विक्रय कर/अन्य स्थानीय दरों पर मूल्य केन्द्रों की दूरी पर निर्भर होती हैं। पिछले 3 वर्षों में बम्बई स्प्रिट के आधारभूत अधिकतम विक्रय मूल्य यहां नीचे दर्शाये गए हैं —

	बम्बई में फुटकर पम्प केन्द्र से बाहर रुपये/किलोलीटर	
1	2	3
1.6.70	1024.59	एम एस 79
28.5.71	1052.49	
29.5.71	1248.99	
1.4.72	1855.19	
1.3.73	1336.83	एम एस 83
11.6.73	1365.67	
22.8.73	1463.67	
3.11.73	2510.6	

*1.4.72 से एम एस 79 को वापस ले लिया गया तथा उसके स्थान पर एम एस 83 आरम्भ किया गया।

उपर्युक्त मूल्यों में विक्रय कर/अन्य स्थानीय दरें तथा अधिभार आदि सम्मिलित नहीं है।

फरवरी, 1974 में कुम्भ मेले के अवसर पर वृन्दावन के लिए अतिरिक्त रेल-गाड़ियां

44. **श्री फूलचन्द वर्मा :** क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या फरवरी, 1974 में कुम्भ मेले के अवसर पर लाखों व्यक्तियों के वृन्दावन आने की सम्भावना है,

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या देश के विभिन्न भागों में उक्त कुम्भ मेले में आने वाले तीर्थ यात्रियों की सुविधा के लिए कुछ अतिरिक्त रेलगाड़ियां वृन्दावन तक चलाने की सभावना है;

(ग) यदि हां, तो कितनी ; और

(घ) यदि नहीं, इसके क्या कारण हैं?

रेल मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री मुहम्मद शफी कुरेशी) :

(क) से (घ) कुम्भ मेले के दौरान वृन्दावन के लिए जब प्रत्याशित अतिरिक्त

यातायात आने लगेगा तो उस क्षेत्र में वर्तमान सवारी गाड़ियों में अधिक डिब्बे लगाकर और पर्याप्त संख्या में स्पेशल गाड़ियां चलाकर उसकी निकासी करने का विचार है।

अपर ताप्ती परियोजना को पांचवीं योजना में शामिल करने के बारे में मध्य प्रदेश का प्रस्ताव

45. **श्री फूलचन्द वर्मा :** क्या सिंचाई और विद्युत् मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या मध्य प्रदेश सरकार ने अपर ताप्ती परियोजना का प्रारूप पांचवी पंच-वर्षीय योजना में शामिल करने के लिए केन्द्रीय सरकार को भेजा है;

(ख) क्या इस परियोजना से मध्य प्रदेश और महाराष्ट्र दोनों राज्यों को लाभ होगा और दोनो राज्यो के सहयोग और सहमति मे ही इस परियोजना का नाम "अपर ताप्ती परियोजना" रखा गया है; और

(ग) यदि हां तो तत्संबंधी मुख्य बातें क्या हैं ?

सिंचाई और विद्युत् मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री सिद्धेश्वर प्रसाद) : (क) से (ग). महाराष्ट्र सरकार ने 87 93 करोड़ रुपये की अनुमानित लागत पर अपर ताप्ती परियोजना चरण-दो के लिये हाल ही में निर्दिष्ट तथा प्राक्कलन भेजे हैं। इस परियोजना को मध्य प्रदेश में 46,691 हैक्टेयर और महाराष्ट्र में 59,849 हैक्टेयर भूमि की सिंचाई करने के लिए मध्य प्रदेश तथा महाराष्ट्र के संयुक्त उपक्रम के रूप में बनाने का प्रस्ताव है।

इस परियोजना में निम्नलिखित निर्माण कार्य परिकल्पित हैं :—

(1) खरिया गुटीघाट के निकट ताप्ती नदी पर एक मुख्य बांध और लगभग 70 किलो मीटर नीचे नवाथा में एक व्यपवर्तन बांध।

(2) खरिया गुटीघाट बांध से सीधे निकलने वाली खरिया वाम तट नहर।

(3) नवाथा व्यपवर्तन बांध से निकलने वाली नवाथा दक्षिण तट नहर।

(4) हतनूर दक्षिण तट नहर चरण-दो, जो कि चरण-एक नहर के विस्तार के रूप में होगा।

बोनस के मामले पर रेल कर्मचारियों द्वारा हड़ताल करने की धमकी

46. **श्री श्रीकृष्ण अग्रवाल :**
श्री ओंकार लाल बेरवा :

क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या रेल कर्मचारियों ने बोनस के मामले को लेकर हड़ताल करने की धमकी दी है ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस संबंध में सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है ?

रेल मंत्रालय में उप-मंत्री (श्री मुहम्मद शफी कुरैशी): (क) जी हां।

(ख) औद्योगिक मजदूरों को बोनस के भुगतान का विनियमन बोनस भुगतान अधिनियम, 1965 द्वारा किया जाता है; यह अधिनियम सरकार के विभागीय उपक्रमों पर लागू नहीं होता जिसमें रेलें भी शामिल हैं।

रेलें सार्वजनिक कार्य करती हैं और उनके खर्च की पूर्ति भारत सरकार के संचित निधि से की जाती है। विकास के लिये उनके वित्तीय साधनों का भार भी केवल सरकार द्वारा वहन किया जाता है। इसके अलावा बीस वर्षों से अधिक समय से रेल कर्मचारियों के वेतन मान के बारे मे विनिश्चय वेतन आयोग की सिफारिशों के सन्दर्भ में किया गया है। इन बातों को ध्यान में रखते हुए विभाग द्वारा चलाये जाने वाले सरकारी उपक्रमों को जिनमें रेलें भी शामिल हैं, बोनस योजना के क्षेत्र से बाहर रखा गया है। किसी भी स्थिति में यह ऐसा मामला नहीं है जिस पर केवल रेल मंत्रालय ही स्वतन्त्र रूप से विचार कर सके। तीसरे वेतन आयोग ने भी केन्द्रीय सरकारी औद्योगिक कर्मचारियों को, जिसमें रेल कर्मचारी भी शामिल हैं, बोनस देने के सम्बन्ध में कोई सिफारिश नहीं की है।

भारत में तेल उत्पादन के लिए रूस द्वारा मशीनरी की सप्लाई

47. श्री श्रीकृष्ण अग्रवाल :
श्री रण बहादुर सिंह :

क्या पेट्रोलियम और रसायन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या भारत में कच्चे तेल के उत्पादन में तीव्र गति लाने के लिए भारत तथा रूस में एक नया समझौता हुआ है, जिसके अन्तर्गत रूस अधिक मात्रा मे उपकरणों की सप्लाई करने के लिए सहमत हुआ है,

(ख) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी मुख्य बातें क्या हैं; और

(ग) इस नये समझौते के अन्तर्गत अब तक कुल कितनी कीमत के उपकरण प्राप्त हुये हैं ?

पेट्रोलियम और रसायन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री शाहनवाज खां) : (क) से (ग). रूस के तेल उद्योग मंत्री के नेतृत्व में रूसी शिष्ट मंडल के साथ जनवरी, 1974 में हुई बात-चीत के दौरान, रूसी पक्ष तेल के अन्वेषण, खनन एवं उत्पादन में भारतीय प्रयत्न में तेजी लाने के लिए, और बातों के साथ साथ, अपेक्षित उपकरणों की सप्लाई हेतु रूसी सहायता शीघ्र देने के लिये सहमत हो गया है। रूस से आयात करने के लिये, जिस के लिए तेल तथा प्राकृतिक गैस आयोग रूसी प्राधिकारियों के पास आर्डर भेज रहा है, रूसी ऋण के अन्तर्गत तेल तथा प्राकृतिक गैस आयोग को अब तक 3.12 करोड़ रुपये का नियतन किया जा चुका है।

मई, अगस्त और नवम्बर, 1973 में लोको कर्मचारियों द्वारा हड़ताल किये जाने के कारण रेलवे को हानि

48. श्री श्रीकृष्ण अग्रवाल : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) संगबल लोको कर्मचारियों द्वारा मई, अगस्त और नवम्बर, 1973 मे की गई हड़ताल से रेल विभाग की आय मे कितनी कमी होने का अनुमान है।

(ख) क्या सरकार ने वित्तीय वर्ष 1973-74 मे इस घाटे को पूरा करने के लिये कुछ विशेष प्रयत्न किये है, और

(ग) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है ?

रेल मंत्रालय में उप-मंत्री (श्री मुहम्मद शफी कुरेशी) : (क) अप्रैल/मई, अगस्त और नवम्बर, 1973 के महीनों मे लोको कर्मचारियों द्वारा की गयी चार मुख्य हड़तालों/आन्दोलनों के कारण ही रेलवे राजस्व को 9.50 करोड़ रुपये से अधिक की हानि हुई।

(ख) और (ग). इस हानि की पूर्ति संभव नहीं है।

रेल विभाग द्वारा समय पर कोयले की ढुलाई न कर पाने के कारण दिल्ली में कोयले की कमी

49. श्री श्रीकृष्ण अग्रवाल : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या दिल्ली मे कोयले की कमी रेल विभाग द्वारा समय पर कोयले की ढुलाई न कर पाने के कारण हुई है ;

(ख) यदि नही, तो पिछले दो महीनो म रेल विभाग द्वारा कितना कोयला ढोया गया, और

(ग) क्या माग के अनुरूप कोयले की ढुलाई की गई और यदि नही, तो इसके क्या कारण है ?

रेल मंत्रालय में उप-मंत्री (श्री मुहम्मद शफी कुरेशी). (क) से (ग) : दिसम्बर, 73 मे पूर्व रेलवे पर लोको कर्मचारियों की हडताल और कई अन्य कर्मचारियो के आन्दलोंनों के कारण बंगाल/बिहार कोयला क्षेत्रों से कोयले के लदान और संचलन पर गम्भीर प्रभाव पडा जिसके फलस्वरूप लदान मे कमी हुई और दिल्ली के लिए भी विभिन्न प्रकार के कोयले के सचलन मे विलम्ब हुआ। कार्यक्रम के अनुसार दिल्ली के लिए कोयले का जो आवंटन किया गया है वह इस प्रकार है—

	कार्यक्रम	आवंटन
	(माल डिब्बे)	
दिसम्बर, 73	2405	890
जनवरी, 74	2405	2389

रतलाम के डीजल शेड का विस्तार

50. डा० लक्ष्मी नारायण पाण्डेय . क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या रतलाम मे डीजल शेड के विस्तार का कार्य प्रारम्भ किया जा चुका है;

(ख) उक्त डीजल शेड के विस्तार के बाद वहां डीजल लोको (इंजनों) की संख्या क्या होगी; और

(ग) उक्त विस्तार कार्य के कब तक पूरे होने की सम्भावना है ?

रेल मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री मुहम्मद शफी कुरेशी) : (क) जी हा।

(ख) इस शेड का अभिकल्प ऐसा बनाया गया है जिससे उसमे 100 डीजल इंजन ठहराये जा सकें जबकि उसकी वर्तमान क्षमता 40 इंजनों की है।

(ग) आशा है कि यह काम 1975 के मध्य तक पूरा हो जायेगा।

बम्बई कलकत्ता, मद्रास और दिल्ली में द्रुत-गामी यात्रा व माल परिवहन

51. डा० लक्ष्मी नारायण पांडेय : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) बम्बई, कलकत्ता, मद्रास और दिल्ली में द्रुतगामी यात्रा व माल परिवहन की आवश्यकता के सन्दर्भ में अब तक क्या कार्यवाही की गई है और अगामी पांच वर्षों में क्या क्या कार्यवाही का प्रस्ताव है ; और

(ख) आगामी 31 दिसम्बर, 1974 तक कितना काम पूरा हो जाने की संभावना है ?

रेल मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री मुहम्मद शफी कुरैशी): (क) और (ख) माल यातायात और यात्री यातायात, दोनों में प्रत्याशित वृद्धि, को सम्हालने के लिए रेल क्षमता विकसित करने के लिए योजना तैयार करना एक सतत् प्रक्रिया है। इस सम्बन्ध मे रेलो को पाचवी पंच वर्षीय योजना के प्रस्तावों को अन्तिम रूप दिया जा रहा है। महानगर परिवहन परियोजनाओ के लिए अनन्तिम रूप से 200 करोड़ रुपये की व्यवस्था की गयी है। दिल्ली, बंबई, कलकत्ता और मद्रास मे व्यापक द्रुत परिवहन योजनाओ के लिए तकनीकी एव आर्थिक व्यावहारिकता अध्ययन का काम चल रहा है और दिसम्बर, 1974 तक इसके पुरा हो जाने की सम्भावना है।

कलकत्ता मे दम दम से टालीगज तक द्रुत परिवहन प्रणाली के अभिकल्प और निर्माण का काम पहले से ही चल रहा है।

समान सिविल कोड

52. श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी :
श्री जगन्नाथ राव जोशी :

क्या विधि, न्याय और कम्पनी कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) देश भर के सभी नागरिको के लिए एक समान सिविल कोड बनाने के लिए अब तक किये गए प्रयासों और उनके परिणामों का ब्यौरा क्या है ; और

(ख) इस सम्बन्ध में भविष्य मे किये जाने वाले विशेष उपायो का ब्यौरा क्या है ?

विधि, न्याय और कम्पनी कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री नीतिराज सिंह चौधरी) : (क) बहुसंख्यक समुदाय के, जिसमें बौद्ध, सिख और जैन मत के मानने वाले भी सम्मिलित है, विवाह, विवाह-विच्छेद, उत्तराधिकार, विरासत, संरक्षता, आदि मे सबंधित वैयक्तिक विधि को बहुत सीमा तक महिता बद्ध करने के लिए पहले से ही कार्यवाही की जा रही है,

(ख) सारे भारत मे विभिन्न वर्गों और समुदायो द्वारा अभिव्यक्त किए गए भिन्न-भिन्न विचारो के कारण फिलहाल कोई और कार्यवाही करने का इरादा नही है।

Target of major irrigation schemes to be taken in First Year of Fifth Plan

53. SHRI VIRBHADRA SINGH: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the target of major irrigation schemes to be taken up in the first year of Fifth Five Year Plan has been finalised, and

(b) if so, the outlines of the schemes to be so taken up?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) and (b). The Annual Plan 1974-75 is yet to be finalised.

Target of Power generation schemes for First Year of Fifth Plan

54. SHRI VIRBHADRA SINGH: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the power generation schemes to be undertaken during first year of Fifth Plan has been finalised, and

(b) if so, the main features thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) and (b). The Power Plan for the first year of our Fifth Plan is currently under finalization.

Shortage of power supply faced by States in January, 1974

55. SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:
SHRI P. M. MEHTA:

Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was a shortfall in power supply all over the country during the month of January, 1974;

(b) if so, the total deficit of power faced by each State during that period; and

(c) the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) and (b). There were shortfalls in power supply relative to demand during January, 1974, in the States of Haryana, Punjab and Uttar Pradesh in the Northern region and in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu in the Southern region and West Bengal and Damodar Valley Corporation area in the Eastern region. The power supply position in the other parts of the country was relatively better though load staggering had to be resorted to in some areas to meet the energy requirements. The restrictions on power supply which were in force in the month of January, 1974 are given in the statement attached.

(c) The principal reasons for shortage in power supply may be ascribed to:

(i) increasing demand;

(ii) delays in commissioning of certain power projects;

(iii) occasional unforseen forced outages of thermal power stations;

(iv) inadequate water availability in reservoirs like Rihand in U.P., Sharavathy in Karnataka and Machkund in orissa compelling curtailment of hydel generation.

STATEMENT

Restrictions on Power

Haryana:

(i) 40 per cent cut on general industry with exemption to essential categories of consumers.

(ii) 50 per cent cut on steel furnaces.

(iii) Power supply to rural feeders were divided into 12 hours groups.

Punjab:

(i) 10 per cent cut on consumers excluding domestic and commercial categories.

(ii) Power supply to agricultural consumers for 10 hours daily or 20 hours on alternate days.

Uttar Pradesh:

(i) 40 per cent energy cut on the basis of actual average consumption during the past one year.

(ii) Steel are furnaces in the State were divided into 3 groups, each group was allowed power for ten days in a month.

(iii) Continuous industries were required to observe a block closure of 10 days in a month or to reduce the demand by 50 per cent.

Andhra Pradesh:

10 per cent cut on maximum demand on all categories of load of H.T. consumers.

Tamil Nadu:

(i) 15 per cent cut on all L.T. Industrial service except those whose monthly consumption is 200 units.

(ii) In the case of L.T. urban power load and the agricultural pumpsets the loads were divided into batches;

Karnataka:

20. per cent on H.T consumers except essential consumers.

15 per cent cut on maximum demand and holiday staggering.

DVC:

Restrictions depending on power availability.

Improvement in oil supplies and impact of oil crisis on different Projects

56. SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the oil supply to India has been improved to a greater extent from the month of January, 1974 onwards, if so, to what extent;

(b) whether the oil crisis has now started showing its impact on various projects;

(c) if so, the projects in various fields that have suffered or are likely to suffer in future due to the oil crisis; and

(d) the steps being taken in this regard by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) to (d). The increase in crude oil prices has been very steep since the beginning of 1974 As such the availability of oil may not be commensurate with needs and this is bound to hit the four vital sectors of the economy, namely, agriculture, industry, transport and power. Intensive efforts are, therefore, being made at all levels so as to ensure that there are no undue strains on the economy of the country.

Threat to Rail plans due to Oil crisis

57. SHRI R V. SWAMINATHAN:
SHRI P. M. MEHTA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the hike in oil prices poses any threat to Railway plans;

(b) if so, to what extent; and

(c) what steps are being taken by his Ministry in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) to (c). Yes. The overall impact of the oil prices and the remedies therefor are under active consideration of the Planning Commission. Railway Plans being a part and parcel of the national plan, necessary steps will be taken after studies in the Planning Commission are completed and the picture becomes clearer.

Assistance from Iran to meet Oil shortage in India

58. SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:
SHRI P. M. MEHTA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Iran's Minister of Economy, Dr. Housnang Ansary, during his visit to India has assured that Iran will help to ease oil shortage in India;

(b) if so, the other subjects discussed and outcome of the discussions; and

(c) to what extent Iran has started helping India in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN: (a) and (b). During the visit of H.E. Mr. Hushang Ansary, Minister of Economy, Iran to India in January 1974, the possibility of diversification of our trade exchanges with Iran and of increase both in quantity and the range of these exchanges were discussed. He indicated that in the light of her capability Iran could consider proposals for easing the oil shortage although Iran was over-committed in respect of her oil resources. The discussions on the subject are to be continued in Tehran later this month.

(c) Normal supplies of crude oil from Iran are being maintained

Japanese Credit for Fertiliser Plants

59. SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:
SHRI V. MAYAVAN:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Japan has offered credit for fertilizer units in India;

(b) whether Government have examined the terms and conditions of the offer; and

(c) if so whether Government have accepted the offer?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) to (c). Japan has offered a credit assistance to the tune of 32.9 billion Yen (equivalent to Rs. 98.7 crores at the current exchange rate) to meet the foreign exchange cost of 3 fertilizer plants to be set up in the public sector in the Fifth Plan period. This offer has been accepted by Government. The loan, which would be repayable in 25 years (including a grace period of 7 years) carries interest at 4 per cent per annum.

Land acquisition for conversion of Howrah-Amta, Howrah-Champadanga and Howrah-Sheakhala Light Railways

60. SHRI MANORANJAN HAZRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the land required for the conversion of the Howrah-Amta, Howrah-Champadanga and Howrah-Sheakhala Light Railways into a broad gauge railway has not yet been acquired; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) Land for Howrah-Amta, Howrah-Champadanga and Dankuni (Howrah)-Sheakhala has not yet been acquired.

(b) Action is pending with the Government of West Bengal who are to acquire and hand over the land to the Railways.

Establishment of a Bench of Supreme Court at Bangalore

61. SHRI MANORANJAN HAZRA: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the lawyers of the Southern region of the country in their Conference held at Calicut recently have unanimously adopted a resolution for the establishment of a Bench of the Supreme Court, with filing powers preferably at Bangalore; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H. R. GOKHALE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Threatened closure of Sindri Factory for want of Gypsum Wagons

62. SHRI MANORANJAN HAZRA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are chances of closure of the Sindri factory in Dhanbad if the Gypsum wagons from Jodhpur to Sindri are not restored; and

(b) what steps are being taken by Government to meet the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) and (b). Every effort is being made to ensure adequate supplies of gypsum to Sindri and there is no risk of the unit closing down now.

USSR Aid for Power Production in India

63. SHRI V. MAYAVAN:
SHRI P. M. MEHTA:

Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether U.S.S.R. has agreed to give substantial aid to boost power generation in India;

(b) if so, the value of the equipment proposed to be supplied by them to India for power generation;

(c) whether India had made any request to the U.S.S.R. Government for help to tide over the power shortage faced in the month of January, 1974; and

(d) when the assistance from U.S.S.R. is likely to be available?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) to (d). USSR has offered to assist India in its power programme. The offer includes supply of equipment for Thermal as well as Hydro Power Stations, deputation of Soviet Experts for erection, comissioning and operation of the plants and training of Indian experts for the purpose in USSR. The actual details have not yet been settled. So, the total value cannot be given.

Supply of Power to Industries

64. SHRI H M. PATEL: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the power position continue to be difficult in various parts of the country;

(b) whether as a result thereof, the industry has considerably suffered and

(c) whether efforts are being made to ensure normal power supply at least to the industry and if so, the main features thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) The power supply position in the country continues to be difficult in various parts of the country, particularly Uttar Pradesh, Punjab and Haryana in the Northern

region, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh in the Southern region and West Bengal in the Eastern Region.

(b) Due to shortages in these States, restrictive power cuts on industries have been imposed.

(c) The following efforts are being made to increase power availability to the industries:—

(i) The utilisation of existing power installations is being maximised by monitoring and arranging for supply and transport of coal and fuel oil, spare parts, etc.

(ii) The programme of constructing inter-state lines and setting up of load-despatch stations is being expedited.

(iii) The projects which are nearing completion are being expedited to ensure early commissioning of the generating units.

(iv) Exchange of power between neighbouring States is being encouraged so as to achieve optimum utilisation of generating capacity and minimise the requirements of reserves.

Aparts from the above measures, the power supply position in the various States has recently been reviewed by this Ministry in consultation with the project authorities to assist the Electricity Boards, wherever required.

Within the limits of availability of electric power, a rational system of priorities has been recommended to the State Governments. Under this, certain basic industries are accorded a high priority in the matter of power supply.

Production and Import of Fertilisers

65. SHRI H. M. PATEL:
SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) total production of fertilizer in the country as on 1st February, 1974;

(b) the requirement of fertilizer during the coming year;

(c) whether fertilizer is being imported to augment our internal production and if so, the main features thereof; and

(d) whether there are proposals to put up more fertilizer plants to increase fertilizer production in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) The production of fertilizers, in terms of nutrients Nitrogen and Phosphate during April 1973 to January, 1974 was as under:—

Nitrogen—	877,000 tonnes
Phosphate—	271,000 tonnes

(b) The requirements of fertilizers of the States/Union Territories/Commodity Boards for Kharif 1974 have been assessed at 10.13 lakh tonnes of Nitrogen, 3.33 lakh tonnes of Phosphate and 1.97 lakh tonnes of Potash. The likely requirements of fertilizers for Rabi 1974-75 are expected to be 19.57 lakh tonnes of Nitrogen, 6.07 lakh tonnes of Phosphate and 3.19 lakh tonnes of Potash. Thus the total requirements of fertilizers for the country for the year 1974-75 will be 29.70 lakh tonnes of Nitrogen, 9.40 lakh tonnes of Phosphate and 5.16 lakh tonnes of Potash.

(c) Yes, Sir; Nitrogenous fertilizers are largely imported from Japan, West Europe East Europe, USSR and

Phosphatic fertilizers from U.S.A., Canada and West Europe and Potassic fertilizers from Canada, West Europe and East Europe Import from East Europe and USSR is arranged by the MMTC and from other sources by the Department of Supply

(d) Yes, Sir.

प्रैक्टिस करने वाले चार्टर्ड एकाउन्टेन्ट्स के बारे में कदाचार की कथित शिकायतें

66. **श्री मूलचन्द डागा :** क्या **विधि, न्याय और कम्पनी कार्य** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या सरकार को चार्टर्ड एकाउन्टेन्सी के प्रशिक्षार्थियो मे प्रैक्टिस करने वाले चार्टर्ड एकाउन्टेन्टस के कथित कदाचार के बारे मे कोई शिकायत प्राप्त हुई है, और

(ख) यदि हा, तो उस पर सरकार का क्या प्रतिक्रिया है ?

विधि, न्याय और कम्पनी कार्य मंत्रालय में उप-मंत्री (श्री बेदब्रत बरुआ): (क) [illegible] 1973 की अवधि मे प्रैक्टिस करने वाले शासप्राप्त लेखाकारो द्वारा छात्रों का मासिक वृत्तिका न देने, उचित कार्य प्राप्त करने के निवारण लेखा–परीक्षको के सहायको के रूखे व्यवहार कार्य करने की सामान्य शर्तों आदि से आरोपित कदाचारो के सम्बन्ध मे तीन शिकायतें प्राप्त हुई थी ।

(ख) शिकायता के ये मामले इन्सटीट्यूट आफ चार्टर्ड एकाउन्टेन्ट्स आफ इण्डिया के आन्तरिक क्षेत्राधिकार मे आते है अत ये उनका इस विषय मे उनके विचार के लिए भेज दिए गये है ।

अजमेर तथा महसाना के बीच चलने वाली '229' अप और '230' डाउन रेलगाड़ी का बन्द किया जाना

67. **श्री मूलचन्द डागा :** क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या अजमेर और महसाना के बीच चलने वाली 229 अप और 230 डाउन रेलगाडिया बन्द कर दी गयी थी और ये कितने समय के लिये बन्द रही, और

(ख) क्या इन्हे फिर से चालू करने का विचार है और यदि नही, तो इसके क्या कारण है ?

रेल मंत्रालय में उप-मंत्री (श्री मुहम्मद शफी कुरेशी): (क) 229 अप का चलना अगस्त अप्रैल, 73 मे तीन दिन, अगस्त 73 मे 5 दिन, सितम्बर, 73 मे 7 दिन, दिसम्बर, 73 मे 25 दिन और जनवरी, 74 मे 4 दिन बन्द रहा जब कि 230 डाउन का चलना, अगस्त अप्रैल, 73 मे तीन दिन, अगस्त, 73 मे 6 दिन, सितम्बर, 73 मे 7 दिन, दिसम्बर 73 मे 26 दिन और जनवरी, 74 मे 4 दिन बन्द रहा ।

(ख) 5–1–74 से इन गाडियो का सामान्य सचालन फिर शुरु हो गया है ।

आगरा फोर्ट और अहमदाबाद के बीच चलने वाली 5 अप और 6 डाउन गाड़ियों का बन्द किया जाना

68. **श्री मूलचन्द डागा :** क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि ।

(क) आगरा फोर्ट से अहमदाबाद तक चल रही 5 अप व 6 डाउन गाड़ियां किस तिथि से बंद कर दी गई ;

(ख) वह कितने दिन तक बंद रही और उन्हें कब तक पुनः चालू किये जाने का विचार है; और

(ग) इतने दिनों तक उनके बन्द होने का क्या कारण था ?

रेल मंत्रालय में उप-मंत्री (श्री मुहम्मद शफी कुरेशी) : (क) से (ग) 5 अप आगरा फोर्ट अहमदाबाद गाड़ी 18 अप्रैल से 22 अप्रैल 1973 तक, 19 अगस्त से 31 अगस्त, 1973 तक, 1 सितम्बर, से 20 सितम्बर, 1973 की अवधियों मे बन्द रही और 6 डाउन अहमदाबाद-आगरा फोर्ट गाड़ी 19 अप्रैल से 21 अप्रैल, 1973 तक, 19 अगस्त से 31 अगस्त 1973 तक और 1 सितम्बर 1973 से 20 सितम्बर, 1973 तक की अवधियों मे बन्द रही । अप्रैल में भारी संख्या मे कर्मचारियों के अनुपस्थिति रहने के कारण और अगस्त तथा सितम्बर, मे लाइन की टूट-फूट और कोयले की कठिन स्थिति के कारण इन गाड़ियों को रद्द किया गया था । कठिन कोयले की स्थिति के कारण 5 अप । 6 डाउन गाड़ियों का 19-1-74 से फिर आंशिक रुप से जयपुर और अहमादाबाद के बीच बन्द कर दिया गया है और इस सम्बन्ध मे स्थिति मे सुधार होने ही इन्हे फिर से चला दिया जायेगा ।

उर्वरकों का उत्पादन

69. श्री माधवराव सिन्धिया :
श्री हेमेन्द्र सिंह बनेरा :

क्या **पेट्रोलियम और रसायन** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) मीठापुर में एक उर्वरक परियोजना स्थापित करने के लिये आवेदन पत्र किस तारीख को सरकार को प्राप्त हुआ था और उसकी उत्पादन क्षमता कितनी होगी ;

(ख) उसकी प्रस्तावित उत्पादन क्षमता के बारे में सरकार ने कब तक और क्या क्या आपत्तियां उठाई ;

(ग) वहा पर उर्वरक संयंत्र लगाने के लिये अनुमति देने के सम्बन्ध मे अब तक कितनी प्रगति हुई है और इस सम्बन्ध में भावी योजना क्या है; और

(घ) उर्वरक उत्पादन के लिये अनुमति देने मे छः से वर्ष अधिक के विलम्ब के लिये सरकारी नीति के कौन से पहलू जिम्मेदार है ?

पेट्रोलियम और रसायन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री शाहनवाज खां) : (क) से (घ). प्रति वर्ष लगभग 460,000 मी० टन नाइट्रोजन 370,000 मी० टन पी० 2 ओ तथा 279,000 मी० टनों 2 ओ के उत्पादन के लिये मीठापुर में एक उर्वरक संयंत्र स्थापना के लिये एक आशय पत्र हेतु मैसर्स टाटा कैमिकल्स लि० ने मूलतः नवम्बर, 1967 में आवेदन किया था, यह प्रस्ताव प्रयाप्ति मात्रा मे अमोनिया था फास्फेटिक अम्ल के आयात पर आधारित था । बाद में यह निर्णय किया गया कि आयातित अमोनिया का उपयोग पूर्णतया सरकारी क्षेत्र की परियोजनाओं मे ही किया जाना चाहिए । इस निर्णय को ध्यान में रखते हुए आवेदक से अनुरोध किया गया कि वे अपने प्रस्ताव में समुचित संशोधन करें । जनवरी, 1970 में मैसर्स टाटा ने एक संशोधन प्रस्ताव भेजा और सरकार ने 25 जुलाई,

1970 को निम्नलिखित मदों के उत्पादन के लिए आशय पत्र दिया :—

(मी० टन प्रति वर्ष)

(i)	ट्रिपल सुपरफास्फेट/डाया-मोनियम सल्फेट	300,000
(ii)	अमोनिया	210,000
(iii)	यूरियां	200,000
(iv)	अमोनियम क्लोराइड	180,000

2. सितम्बर, 1970 में आयातित फास्फोरिक अम्ल पर आधारित विभिन्न परियोजनाओं को जिनमे मैसर्स टाटा भी सम्मिलित है, अम्ल के केप्टिव उत्पादन के लिए सुविधाओ का विकास करने तथा तदनुसार अपने प्रस्तावों में सशोधन करने की सलाह दी गई। ऐसा विश्व बाजार में सल्फर के मूल्य में हुई भारी कमी तथा देश मे काफी राक फास्फेट निक्षेपो के वाणिज्यिक को दोहन के सन्दर्भ मे किया। जुलाई, 1972 मे में कम्पनी ने आशय पत्र को और बढ़ाने की प्रार्थना के साथ साफ उसमे सशोधन करने का भी अनुरोध किया ताकि केवल नाइट्रोजनीय उर्वरक के उत्पादन के लिए व्यवस्था को जा सके। मई 1972 म निम्नलिखित क्षमताओ के साथ आशय पत्र मे सशोधन किया गया :

(मी० टन प्रति वर्ष)

(i)	अमोनिया	210,000
(ii)	यूरिया	200,000
(iii)	अमोनियम कलोराइड	180,000

3. पार्टी ने 17–11–1972 को संबंधित आशय पत्र एक औद्योगिक लाइसेंसमें बदलने का निवेदन किया। कम्पनी ने आशय पत्र की शर्तों को पूरा नहीं किया अतएव उसे औद्योगिक लाइसेंस प्रदान करना अभी समय से पूर्व को बात समझा गया परन्तु कम्पनी की प्रगति को ध्यान में रखते हुए उसे 25–7–1970 को प्रदान किए गए आशय पत्र की वैधता की अवधि 31–12–1973 तक बढ़ा दी गई। पार्टी सरकार को बता चुकी है कि वह इस परियोजना को और आगे चालू नही रखना चाहती। पार्टी ने आशय पत्र की वैधता की अवधि को बढ़ाने के लिये भी आवेदन नही किया है। आशय पत्र की वैधता की तिथि 31 दिसम्बर 1973 को समाप्त हो गई।

समुद्र से तेल और गैस की खोज

70. **श्री लाल जी भाई** . क्या पेट्रोलियम और रसायन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि .

(क) क्या बहुत से देश समुद्र से पैट्रोलियम और गैस निकालने में सफल हो गये हैं ,

(ख) यदि हां, तो भारत ने इस दिशा मे क्या प्रयत्न किये है ; और

(ग) इस प्रयत्न में कौन कौन से देश भारत की मदद कर रहे हैं या करने वाले है और तत्संबधी ब्योरा क्या है ?

पेट्रोलियम और रसायन मंत्रालय राज्य मंत्री (श्री शाहनवाज खां): (क) अपतटीय क्षेत्रों अर्थात आस्ट्रेलिया , ब्रिटेन, नार्वे, अफ्रीका के पश्चिमी तट आदि में गैस तथा तेल के बड़े भंडार पाये गये है। फारस की खाड़ी, अफ्रीका, इंडोनेशिया तथा अमरीका में भी अपतटीय क्षेत्रों मे तेल के काफी भंडार पाये गये है।

(ख) तेल तथा प्राकृतिक गैस आयोग ने 1970 में खम्भात की खाड़ी में अलियाबेट नामक स्थान पर अतटीय अन्वेषण कार्य के क्षेत्र में प्रथम प्रयास किया है। हालांकि वहां तेल पाया गया था, लेकिन वह वाणिज्यिक स्तर का नहीं था तथापि विश्व बाजार में कच्चे तेल के मूल्य में हुई अत्यधिक वृद्धि को दृष्टि में रखते हुए इस बात का पुन: मुल्यांकन किया जा रहा है कि क्या अलियाबेट क्षेत्र के पुनः अन्वेषण करना वाणिज्यिक तौर पर लाभ प्रद होगा। इस समय, बम्बई हाई संरचना जिसमें 'सागर सम्राट' का इस्तेमाल किया जा रहा है – में अतटीय व्यधन कार्य में प्रगति हो रही है।

(ग) आपशोर इंटरनेशनल एस० ए० नामक एक अमरीकन फर्म बम्बई हाई संरचना में अतटीय व्यधन कार्य में तेल तथा प्राकृतिक गैस आयोग की सहायता कर रहीं है। इस के अतिरिक्त जनरल कान्ट्रेक्टर टाइप आधार पर अतटीय अन्वेषण के लिये कुछ विदेशी पार्टियों के साथ बातचीत की जा रहीं है।

कारों और स्कूटरों का गैस से चलाया जाना

71. **श्री लालजी भाई :** क्या **पेट्रोलियम और रसायन** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या हाल ही में तेल संकट उत्पन्न हुई स्थिति के कारण कुछ उत्साही व्यक्तियों ने देश के विभिन्न भागों में कार, स्कूटर तथा अन्य गाड़ियां गैस से चलाकर दिखाई ;

(ख) क्या सरकार ने गैस से स्कूटर कार तथा अन्य गाड़ियां चलाने पर प्रतिबन्ध लगा दिया है ; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ?

पेट्रोलियम और रसायन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री शाहनवाज खां): (क) जी, हां।

(ख) और (ग). तरल पदार्थों पैट्रोलियम गैस मुख्यतया घरेलू ईंधन के लिये बनी और उसी के आधार पर इसका मूल्य नियत किया है। तरल पैट्रोलियम गैस का कुल उत्पादन देश में मोटर गैसों लीडन (एम० एस०) खपत का एक भाग है। इस लिये मोटर स्पिरिट के लिये स्थानापन्न नहीं हो सकती। इसके अतिरिक्त से दोनों उत्पाद कच्चे तेल के परिकरण के उप-उत्पाद होने के कारण एक के स्थान पर दूसरे का प्रयोग करने से कोई समग्र लाभ नहीं होगा। तथापि इस तरह का कोई प्रतिबन्ध नहो लगाया गया हैं।

Prices of Petrol in India as compared to those in other Countries

72. SHRI RANA BAHADUR SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be leased to state:

(a) whether the prices of petrol in India are the Second highest in the World;

(b) if not, the figures after the price rise in the World's important countries; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) and (b). Recently, there have been several increases in quick succession some of them very steep, in the prices of crude oil. All this has led to frequent changes in the prices of petrol in different countries. In this fluid situation, information re-

lating to the rise in the price of petrol in different countries is not readily available.

(c) In the present situation it is not possible to consider reduction in the prices of petrol.

Failure to supply Fuel or Coal to Railways

73. SHRI S C. SAMANTA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether sufficient fuel or coal was not available to the Railways for their normal running of trains during the last part of the year of 1973 and there is no improvement in the position even now;

(b) by what time the supply position is likely to improve satisfactorily; and

(c) what loss is suffered by the Railways due to non-availability of coal?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) Railways have been experiencing shrinking coal supplies in recent months and the running of some unimportant branch line passenger trains were temporarily suspended. There is no change in the position so far.

(b) Close coordination is being maintained with the coal producing authorities and the position is expected to improve in the near future.

(c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha in due course.

More Railway Amenities and Services in backward and neglected Areas

74. SHRI S. C. SAMANTA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that more and more Railway amenities and services are being provided in the areas already enjoying a good deal of facilities and the backward areas either meagrely served by Railways or not served at all are being neglected;

(b) what are the plans to give new Railway lines to the areas where no such facilities exist so far; and

(c) what are the prospects of giving additional services in areas where the service is scanty?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) to (c). Development of railways is planned taking into account the national priorities as laid down in the national plans The transport needs of the core sector of the economy receive the highest priority and a major portion of the investment on Railways in the 5th Plan is earmarked for the transport of coal, iron ore, finished steel, petroleum and petroleum products, cement, fertiliser, etc. The location of raw materials and the industries which are not decided by the Railways but by other agencies, determine the schemes for development of the Railways to meet the requirements of this traffic.

The other sector which gets high priority in the development schemes of Railway is the long distance passenger traffic, as in our vast country, rail transport provides the cheapest and the most convenient mode of travel for the majority of our people over long distances. Mass transport of commuters from the suburbs to urban centres is another field in which the Rail transport provides the best alternative and due attention is being given to the development of facilities in this sector also.

The sectors mentioned above claim a major portion of the limited funds available for the develoment of the Railways but inspite of the financial limitations, the requirements of back-

ward areas have not been ignored. A new policy which was enunciated by the Minister of railways budget speech for 1973-74, has been under consideration for evaluating the proposals for construction of new railway lines and gauge conversion projects in backward areas so that the low financial returns on the investment on these schemes do not come in the way of their being taken up. Cooperation of the State Governments has been sought in order to reduce the financial burden of the Railways on account of the construction of these railway lines. It has been suggested to them that they may bear the cost of land and the labour component of the construction cost. Surveys have been ordered for a large number of railway lines in backward areas under this new policy and some of the schemes for which the surveys have been completed have already been approved It is intended to approach the Parliament for approving a few more proposals for construction of railway lines of this type in the next Budget which is to be presented shortly

विगत तीन महीनों के दौरान रेलवे में हुई हड़ताल

75. **श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह** : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) विगत तीन महीनों के दौरान रेलवे में क्षत्रवार कितनी हडताले हुई ;

(ख) इनमें से कितनी हडताले वैध थी और कितनी अवैध ;

(ग) सरकार को इन हडतालों के परिणामस्वरूप कितनी हानि हुई ; और

(घ) भविष्य में रेलवे प्रशासन में अनुशासन और कुशलता लाने के लिये सरकार का क्या कार्यवाही करने का विचार है ?

रेल मंत्रालय में उप-मंत्री श्री मुहम्मद शफी कुरेशी) : (क) से (ग). सूचना इकट्ठी की जा रही है और सभा पटल पर रख दी जायेगी।

(घ) हड़तालों और आन्दोलनों को निरुत्साहित करने के लिये "कोई काम नही कोई वेतन नही" का सिद्धान्त लागू करने का निश्चय किया गया है। अनुशासन मे कोई ढिलाई या छूट नहीं दी जायेगी और अनुशासन हीनता के सब मामलों में कड़ी कार्यवाहीं की जायेगी। निष्ठावान व्यक्तियों को पुरस्कृत किया जाता रहेगा और सभी सहयोगशील कर्मचारियों तथा उन के परिवारो को पूरी तरह सुरक्षा की जायेगी जिस से कि आपात स्थिति के दौरान वे अपने कर्त्तव्य का पालन कर सके ।

मूल्य वृद्धि के पश्चात् पेट्रोल की खपत में कमी

76. **श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह** : क्या पेट्रोलियम और रसायन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या गत वर्ष पेट्रोलियम उत्पादों की कीमतों मे वृद्धि के बाद पेट्रोल की खपत मे कमी हुई है ,

(ख) विगत छ महीनों के दौरान दिल्ली मे पेट्रोल की खपत का, माहवार ब्यौरा क्या है ; और

(ग) इस समय दिल्ली मे विभिन्न तेल कम्पनियों के कितने पेट्रोल पम्प और डीजल पम्प हैं ?

पेट्रोलियम और रसायन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री शाहनवाज खाँ): (क) मोटर स्पिरिट की खपत में नवम्बर 1973

में 19.2 पर सेंट और जनवरी, 1974 में 23.8 पर सेंट तक गिरावट आई है जो गत वर्ष के तदनुरूपी महीनों की तुलना में गिरावट है ।

(ख) अलग अलग उत्पादों की खपत के आंकड़ों को प्रकट करना सार्वजनिक हित में ठीक नहीं होगा ।

(ग) दिल्ली क्षेत्र में पेट्रोल और डीजल या पेट्रोल की बिक्री करने वाले पेट्रोल पम्पों की संख्या 2007 है । कंपनी-वार ब्यौरा निम्न रूप में है :—

भारतीय तेल निगम	57
बर्मा शैल	62
ऐस्सों	35
कालटेक्स	33
इण्डो बर्मा पेट्रोलियम कंपनी	13
	200

प्रथम श्रेणी के रेलवे पास जारी करना

77. **श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह :** क्या **रेल** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या संसद् सदस्यों के अतिरिक्त कितने व्यक्तियों को भारतीय रेलवे द्वारा प्रथम श्रेणी के रेलवे पास दिए गए हैं और उन का ब्यौरा क्या है ; और

(ख) रेलवे में ऐसे अधिकारियों की संख्या क्रमशः कितनी है जिन्हें सैलून वातानुकूलित तथा प्रथम श्रेणी में यात्रा करने का अधिकार है ?

रेल मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री मुहम्मद शफी कुरेशी) : (क) 79 व्यक्तियों संगठनों जिन्हें मानार्थ पास जारी किये गये गये हैं, की एक सूची सभा पटल पर रखी गयी है । [**ग्रन्थालय म रखी गयी ।** **देखिए संख्या** एल.टी–6152/74]

(ख) ऐसे अधिकारियों की स्थूल संख्या जो निम्नलिखित द्वारा यात्रा करने के हकदार हैं, प्रत्येक के सामने नीचे दी गयी है :

(i) निरीक्षणायान ड्यूटी पर .	8,000
(ii) वातानुकूलित (ड्यूटी पर)	850
(iii) पहला दर्जा	30,000

जनवरी, 1974 में कौडरमा रेलवे स्टेशन पर गोली चलने से हताहत हुए व्यक्ति

78. **श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह :** क्या **रेल** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) बिहार बंद के सिलसिले में कोडरमा रेलवे स्टेशन पर गोली चलने से कितने व्यक्ति हताहत हुए ;

(ख) पुलिस ने किन कारणों से गोली चलाई तथा रेलवे के आहत व्यक्तियों के उपचार के लिये क्या कार्यवाही की है ; और

(ग) इस घटना का संक्षिप्त ब्यौरा क्या है ?

रेल मंत्रालय में उप-मंत्री (श्री मोम्मद शफी कुरैशी) : (क) कोई व्यक्ति नहीं मरा लेकिन 7 व्यक्ति घायल हुए थे ।

(ख) 21–1–1974 को लगभग 14.30 बजे कोडरमा रेलवे स्टेशन के

प्लेटफार्म नं० 1 पर एक भीड़ इकट्ठी हो गयी जिस ने "रेल को लूटो", "स्टाफ को मारो" के नारे लगाने शुरू कर दिये और वह अति उग्र हो गयी। भीड़ द्वारा स्टेशन कार्यालय के अन्दर घुस कर रोकड़ लूट लेने और रेलवे सुरक्षा दल तथा पुलिस कर्मचारियों को मार डालने या घायल कर देने तथा उन से हथियार छीन लेने के सख्त खतरे को देखते हुए एक सक्षम मजिस्ट्रेट के आदेशों के अधीन गोली चलायी गयी।

घायल होने वाले व्यक्तियों का इलाज स्थानीय सिविल अस्पताल में किया गया था।

(ग) 21-1-1974 को लगभग 11.40 बजे "बिहार बंद" मनाने के लिए एक भारी भीड़ पूर्वी केबिन के पास कोडरमा समपार फाटक के निकट गाड़ियों का चलना बंद करने के लिए इकट्ठी हो गयी और वास्तव में उसने दोनों पटरियों पर गिट्टी आदि रख कर अप मिलिटरी स्पेशल को रोक भी दिया था। कोडरमा में ड्यूटी पर तैनात मजिस्ट्रेट ने बिहार मिलिटरी पुलिस और रेलवे सुरक्षा दल के कर्मचारियों के साथ पटरी को साफ करने की पूरी कोशिश की लेकिन व्यर्थ। उसी दिन लगभग 14.30 बजे 400/500 व्यक्ति कोडरमा स्टेशन के प्लेटफार्म नं० 1 पर इकट्ठे हो गये और "रेल को लूटो", "स्टाफ को मारो" जैसे नारे लगे। भीड़ ने एक सहायक ड्राइवर पर हमला कर दिया जिसे रेलवे सुरक्षा दल और पुलिस ने ड्यूटी मजिस्ट्रेट के आदेश पर हल्का लाठी चार्ज करके बचा लिया। इस पर भीड़ और भड़क उठी और उस ने विभिन्न दिशाओं से पत्थर फेंकने शुरू कर दिये जिस से 12 व्यक्तियों को चोटें आयीं। इसमें रेलवे पुलिस का एक सिपाही शामिल है जिसे गम्भीर चोटें आईं थी। मजिस्ट्रेट ने रेलवे सुरक्षा दल और पुलिस को लाठी चार्ज करने का दुबारा आदेश दिया। इस लाठी चार्ज का वांछित प्रभाव नहीं हुआ और भीड़ रोकड़ लूटने तथा रेलवे सुरक्षा दल के कर्मचारियों और पुलिस कर्मचारियों को मार डालने या घायल करने और साथ ही उन के हथियार छीन लेने के उद्देश्य से स्टेशन कार्यालय में दाखिल होने का प्रयास करती रही। इस पर मजिस्ट्रेट ने और कोई विकल्प न देख कर जान-माल की संरक्षा के लिए गोली चलाने का आदेश दिया जिसके परिणाम स्वरूप 7 व्यक्तियों को चोटें आयीं। लगभग 16-00 बजे भीड़ हटा दी गयी और 16-40 बजे गाड़ियां फिर से चलनी शुरू हो गयी।

Projects sanctioned by Rural Electrification Corporation in Orissa

79. SHRI GAJADHAR MAJHI: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the projects sanctioned by the Rural Electrification Corporation during the current financial year in the State of Orissa; and

(b) the particulars regarding the projects sanctioned for the improvement of backward (Adivasi) areas in the State of Orissa during 1973-74?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) and (b). The Rural Electrification Corporation has sanctioned 13 rural electrification schemes of Orissa State Electricity Board during the current financial year (upto January, 1974). The loan assistance involved is Rs. 4.46 crores. The schemes envisage electrification of 914 villages, energisation of 8080 pumpsets and power supply to 1340 small scale and agro-industries. Out of these, 3

schemes involving a loan assistance of Rs. 80.901 lakhs mainly pertain to tribal areas. The details of the schemes are given below:—

Name of the scheme	Amount of loan Sanctioned	Coverage	
		No. of villages	No. of pump set
1	2	3	4
	(Rs. in lakhs)		
Bélsura Police Station in Sundergarh District	25·720	63	50
Champa, Patna and Saharpada Blocks in Keonjihar District	28·417	54	11
Nandgaon Block in Sundergarh District . .	26·764	76	25

Recruitment and Promotion Opportunities in Railways for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

80. SHRI GAJADHAR MAJHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railway Board have taken decisions in regard to recruitment and promotion opportunities in the Railways for the candidates belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes;

(b) if so, the broad outlines regarding quota which has been provided;

(c) whether Government have also taken decision to look into the grievances of the staff belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes; and

(d) if so, the Salient features thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) and (b). There is a reservation quota of 15 per cent for Scheduled Castes and 7½ per cent for Scheduled Tribes in recruitment to vacancies which carry scale of pay rising above Rs. 375 p m For other vacancies, varying percentages have been prescribed for each Zonal Railway based on the percentage of population of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes as compared to the overall population of the area traversed by a particular Railway. In promotions a quota of 15 per cent and 7½ per cent is provided in posts filled by (a) on the basis of seniority-cum-suitability in Class I, II, III and IV, (ii) by competitive examination limited to departmental candidates in Class II, III and IV; and (iii) by selection in Class III and IV provided the element of direct recruitment to these grades does not exceed 50 per cent.

(c) and (d). A special Cell has been set up in the Railway Ministry under a senior officer assisted by two Advisers one each from Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. The Personnel Department on the zonal railways has also been strengthened by the addition of a Senior Personnel Officer with necessary staff on each railway for this important work.

Cut in Furnace Oil Allocations to Industry

81. SHRI GAJADHAR MAJHI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to impose drastic cuts in furnace oil allocations to industry; and

(b) if so, the broad outlines thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) and (b). In view of the steep increase in prices of crude oil and petroleum products and the critical furnace oil availability in the world markets it has not been possible to meet the furnace oil requirements of the country in full. The Government have, therefore, advised the oil companies to meet upto 90 per cent of the normal offtakes of industrial units based on the past offtakes during the months of January and February, 1974.

Creation of Class I, II and III Posts since the Imposition of Ban

82. SHRI RAJDEO SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether ban on creation of posts currently exists on the Indian Railways;

(b) if so, when was the said ban imposed;

(c) whether since the imposition of the ban a large number of posts of officers of both class I and II have been created; and

(d) the exact number of posts of I, II and III officials created year-wise and Railway-wise since the imposition of the ban?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) and (b). The ban on creation of gazetted posts of non-workcharged nature on non-Plan side exists since 27-8-73. However, certain essential categories of posts, *e.g.*, posts required for the implementation and operation/maintenance of Plan Schemes, operational posts etc. are experts from this ban.

So far as non-gazetted posts are concerned, the ban on creation of posts was imposed for the first time on 6-2-60 and the same is still continuing in the Headquarters/Divisions/District offices. The ban is not applicable in respect of posts including Ministerial and Class IV required for the operation and maintenance of new or additional assets or any specific additional service or activity; developmental schemes and works for which sanctions exist, etc.

(c) and (d). The number of Class I and II non-workcharged posts created on Zonal Railways after 27-8-73 yearwise is given in the attached statement. As regards Class III posts, information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT

LOK SABHA 1973 (27-8-73 to 31-12-73)

Category	Railway	Number of posts
Class I	Central . . .	4
	Eastern . . .	6
	Northern . . .	5
	North Eastern . . .	4

Category	Railway	Number of posts
	Northeast Frontier .	3
	Southern . . .	4
	South Central . .	5
	South Eastern . . .	6
	Western . . .	4
		41
Junior Scale/Cl. II	Central . . .	10
	Eastern	19
	Northern . . .	15
	North Eastern . . .	11
	Northeast Frontier . . .	6
	Southern . . .	12
	South Central .	9
	South Eastern . . .	17
	Western . . .	16
		115

1974 up o 13 2.74)

Category	Railway	Number of posts
Class I . . .	Eastern	1
	Northern . .	1
		2
Junior Scale/Cl II .	Central	1
	Northeast Frontier .	5
		6

Dependance on imported Technical know-how in Fertilizer Industry

83. SHRI RAJDEO SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India still depends for a large part of its process knowledge and technical know-how in the fertilizers industry on imports; and

(b) whether Government consider it advisable to commit a lot more of resources to research on process, design and technology to achieve even a modicum of self-reliance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) and (b). Over the years, India has achieved a substantial measure of self-reliance in the fertilizer field and external assistance is at present limited to areas like acquisition of process know-how, supply of sophisticated equipment and services not available in the country. Continuing efforts are being made over a wide front by measures like intensification of research, strengthening/diversification of industrial base to reduce the degree of dependence on outside.

Railway Consultancy Service

84. SHRI RAJDEO SINGH:
SHRI M. S. SANJEEVI RAO:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Railways have decided to have its own consultancy service organised or created.

(b) whether this move is to help construction of Railway development works within the Country alone or outside the Country also as and when needed; and

(c) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) Yes.

(b) The Consultancy Unit is expected to provide comprehensive Consultancy Services to both foreign as well as Indian Clients.

(c) The Company is proposed to be set up under the Indian Companies Act 1956, under the administrative control of the Ministry of Railways.

Import, Production and Prices of Crude and Petroleum Products

85. SHRI SAMAR GUHA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) the latest position in regard to import of crude oil, increase of price of crude, fixation of prices for petrol and petroleum products;

(b) the outcome of the negotiations conducted with Arab countries Iran and Russia for resolving oil crisis in India; and

(c) the outlines of the renewed plan for exploring indigenous oil resources for meeting the oil crisis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) The increase in crude oil prices has been very steep since the beginning of 1974. As such the availability of oil may not be commensurate with the needs. The prices of some petroleum products were raised with effect from 23-1-1074 to correspond to the present high prices of crude oil. In regard to other products, the matter is under consideration.

(b) The discussions are still in progress.

(c) Based on a techno-economic feasibility study made by a joint team of Oil and Natural Gas Commission and the Soviet Experts, the Fifth Five Year Plan programme of the ONGC envisages drilling of 1.47 million metres with a view to:

(i) establishing additional recoverable reserves of 70 million tonnes of oil; and

(ii) achieving a production rate of 8.42 million tonnes during 1978-79 with a cumulative production of 34.12 million tonnes during the Plan period.

Plan for Switching over to Coal-based Production of Fertilizers

86. SHRI SAMAR GUHA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether for resolving Fertilizer crisis from a long-range perpective. Government have adopted any plan for switching over to coal-based production of fertilisers; and

(b) if so, the facts threabout?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) and (b). There is no proposal at present for conversion of existing fertilizer plants based on petroleum feedstock to coal. Three new fertilizer plants based on coal as feedstock are being set up at Talcher (Orissa), Ramagundam (Andhra Pradesh) and Korba (Madhya Pradesh).

Demand by All India Railwaymen's Federation

87. SHRI SAMAR GUHA:
SHRI S. M BANERJEE

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether All India Railwaymen's Federation have made any representation to Government regarding their demands;

(b) if so the facts about their demands;

(c) whether the Railwaymen are contemplating a general strike in February, 1947; and

(d) if so, the steps taken or proposed by the Government to atrive at a settlement regarding the issues raised by the All India Railwaymen's Federation and other Railwaymen organisations?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI) (a) and (b). Yes, These demands relate to the service conditions of Railway employees.

(c) No.

(d) Does not arise.

Problems faced by Taxi Drivers due to rise in Petrol Price

88. SHRI SAMAR GUHA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether taxi drivers all-over the country observed strike and bundhs to draw the attention of Government in regard to their problems due to abnormal rise in prices of petroleum and other allied products;

(b) whether their representatives submitted to him a memorandum;

(c) if so, facts about the requests made by the Taxi Driver's Association to Government; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed by Government to mitigate their problems?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) Strikes by taxi drivers were reported from some parts of the country.

(b) The Federation of All India Taximen's Union Calcutta sent to this Ministry a copy of their Memorandum dated 30-11-1973 addressed to the Prime Minister.

(c) The Memorandum related to various matters mainly concerning the cost of petrol and seeking relief thereon.

(d) The increase in the cost of petrol is on account of the steep increase in the cost of imported crude oil, and the levy of duty on petrol with a view to curbing its consumption in the overall national interest.

Problems faced by Petrol Dealers due to Price Rise

89. SHRI SAMAR GUHA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether petroleum dealers under unemployed graduate engineer's scheme are facing serious problems due to sudden sharp rise in prices of petroleum and its products;

(b) whether they have made any representation to him in this regard;

(c) if so, gist of the problems outlined by them and the solutions suggested therefor;

(d) the reaction of Government thereto; and

(e) the steps taken by Government to help those petroleum dealers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) and (b). Dealers under this scheme have made representation to this effect.

(c) This gist of the problem outlined is:

(i) They are paying enormous amount as interest to the nationalised banks;

(ii) Because of sharp increase in petrol price the total value of stock has gone up and hence they are having to pay a higer rate of insurance premium to the fire insurance company;

(iii) Their sales turn-over has gone down at least 10 per cent thereby reducing their profit.

(iv) More than 70 persons are working at these outlets and that they will have to retrench 50 per cent of the employees. The gist of solution suggested by them therefor is:—

(i) Commission on petrol & HSD should be at least 8 per cent on the invoice price.

(ii) SSLF (Monthly licence fee payable to IOC) should be entirely eliminated.

(iii) Dealership of Indane Gas should be granted to them.

(iv) They may be permitted to introduce immediate servicing facilities at all the outlets.

(v) All grades of lubricants should be supplied through them so that they can have business for industrial belt.

(vi) Diesel dispensing pump should be provided wherever there is none.

(vii) Bank interest should be reduced.

(viii) Margin money required by the bank may be provided by the Government.

(ix) Cheque system instead of bank draft system for purchase of petroleum products may be permitted.

(x) They may be allowed to do technical business or take up service.

(xi) Dealerships of tyres for heavy and light motor vehicles may be granted to them.

(xii) Relief to the extent of 5 per cent in the Sales Tax may be provided to them.

(b) and (c). The matter is under consideration of the Government.

Amount spent on Machinery for Off-shore Drilling

90. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK:
SHRI BIRENDRA SINGH RAO:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount so far spent by Government on the purchase of machinery and other equipments for off-shore drilling in the country during the last two years, year-wise;

(b) whether any success has been achieved in the off-shore drilling; and

(c) if so the main features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) During 1971-72 and 1972-73 ONGC spent Rs. 887.71 lakhs and Rs. 424.37 lakhs respectively for purchase of machinery and equipment for off-shore drilling.

(b) Except for the small discovery in Aliabet off-shore structure, there has been no further off-shore discovery of petroleum.

(c) Does not arise.

Shortage of Petrol, Diesel Oil and H.S.D.

91. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is shortage of Petrol, diesel oil and high speed diesel oil in the country inspite of the fact that the prices thereof have been increased considerably;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken to ensure adequate supply of these products at fixed rates especially to farmers throughout the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) to (c). With the drop in consumption of petrol (Motor Spirit) since November, 1973, when the prices thereof were increased there is at present no shortage of petrol in the country.

The demand for high speed diesel oil has, however increased considerably. The production of kerosene oil has, therefore, been reduced again to meet the increasing requirements of high speed diesel oil. There have, also been some local shortage due to high demands and transport difficulties. All efforts are, however, being made to increase the supply of diesel oil in the country.

The ceiling selling prices of diesel oil from the oil companies' depots and outlets are fixed. The State Governments have been advised to ensure that these prices are maintained and there is no hoarding or black marketing of the product.

Shortage of Wagons for Industries

92. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the fact that a number of industries had been seriously affected during the year 1973 due to shortage of wagons;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken for the regular supply of railway wagons?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) and (b). On occasions there was delayed supply of wagons to industries. This was due to reasons very often the control of the Railways. Abnormal movement of foodgrains during the drought period followed by severe power shedding during summer months, affecting train movement, series of strikes staff and public agitations, continued to affect train movement and also immobilissd large number of railway wagons This caused delays in wagon supplies.

(c) If nomal conditions prevail, there is no difficulty for Railways to meet the various demands for wagons from industries.

Loss of Earnings and Property suffered by Indian Railways from 1-4-1973 to 31-1-1974

93. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated loss of earnings and property suffered by the Indian Railways during the period 1st April, 1973 to 31st January, 1974 due to strikes,

(b) whether Government of India propose to ban the strike in Railways under the Defence of India Rules; and

(c) what are the steps taken by Government to avert such strikes?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha

(b) and (c). 1. The legitimate demands of all categories of staff are considered and solved through the various tiers of the collective bargaining machinery—the Permanent Negotiating Machinery and the Joint Consultative Machinery--which have been functioning constitutionally and purposefully over a long period of time. Further, representations coming from any source, including unrecognised Unions are given due consideration and action, as is appropriate in each case, is taken. When there is so much of scope for raising the points of grievances and getting them redressed, there should really be no room for sudden out-bursts of illegal strikes or agitations like "Work-to-Rule", "Work-to-Safety" etc

2. Under the order issued on 25th November, 1973 in exercise of Defence of India Rules, 1971 strike is prohibited in Railway service for a perod of six months with effect from 26th November, 1973 Violation of these orders is punishable as per provision of the rules.

3. Railway employees who resort to illegal strikes in violation of the provisions of the Industrial Disputes Act 1947, are liable for punishment as prescribed in the said Act.

4. It has been decided to enforce the principle of "No Work—No Pay" to discourage the elements instigating strikes and agitations.

5. There shall be no laxity or relaxation in discipline and all acts of indiscipline shall be dealt with firmly.

Eviction of People for construction of Reserviors of Water for Tambaror Hydel Electric Project in Tripura

94. SHRI BIREN DUTTA Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of persons have been forcibly evicted from Raima Sarma area of Tripura for construction of reservoir of water for Tambaror Hydel Electric Project,

(b) if so, the number of persons evicted·

(c) whether the evicted persons are tribals; and

(d) whether they have been given alternative land and rehabilitation benefits?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) to (d). While no one has been forcibly evicted from Raima Sarma area of Dambaroo (Gumti) Hydel Project, 243 families (236 Tribals and 7 non-Tribals), who have been paid compensation and 997 Tribal families who do not have any right and title over the land have been finally persuaded to leave.

Families who have been paid compensation are making their own arrangements for resettlement; for others alternate land in Amarpur Subdivision has been arranged.

Construction of Railway Lines in South Asian Countries by India

95. SHRI M. S. SANJEEVI RAO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any offers from smaller countries, especially from South Asia for construction of Railway lines there; and

(b) if so, the number of such offers received and action taken thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) and (b). Recently the Malaysian Government have approached the Government of India for bilateral assistance for carrying out an economic and technical feasibility study of a rail link from the existing railway line to the new port of Pasir Gudang in Johore, a length of about 10 to 15 miles. Ministry of Railways have agreed to undertake the study and necessary estimate has been prepared in consultation with the Finance Ministry. The phasing of the study will be decided in consultation with the Malysian Govt. in due course.

Special facilities to Third Class Passengers and Students

96. SHRI M. S. SANJEEVI RAO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether third class passengers and students in Railways are likely to get special fa ilities;

(b) if so, nature of facilities that have been proposed; and

(c) what would be the additional cost thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) No special facilities other than those being provided at present to third class passengers and students are envisaged. Recently, students have been given preferncе also in allotment of reserved coaches for their educational tours.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Campaign to Educate Motorists to detect Adulteration of Petrol

97. SHRI M. S. SANJEEVI RAO: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to launch a publicity campaign to educate motorists how to detect adulteration of petrol; and

(b) if so, the broad outlines of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government has asked the oil companies to display posters at retail outlets to educate the motoring public of simple test which lead to detection of adulteration.

Huge Oil Reserves in Continental self

98. SHRI SAROJ MUKHERJEE:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that two leading international oil companies have reported that there is a huge oil reserve in the coastal area submerged in the Bay of Bengal

and that 80 per cent of world's oil reserve is found in the "Continental self" areas; and

(b) whether Government are contemplating to explore oil from beneath the Bay of Bengal, as well as from the coastal areas of Bay of Bengal covering West Bengal, Orissa, Andaman and Nicobar Islands?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Government are proposing to explore for oil, the continental shelf areas adjoining Bengal, Orissa, Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

Oil-based Fertilizer Plant at Phulpur

99 SHRI K M MADHUKAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state

(a) whether a fertiliser plant at Phulpur, near Allahabad in U P will be using fuel oil as its feedstock;

(b) whether so far the policy has been to license only Coal-based fertiliser factories, and

(c) if so, the reasons for giving exemption to this unit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) Fuel oil has been suggested as the feedstock for the fertilizer plant proposed to be set up by the IFFCO in the cooperative sector at Phulpur.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Fire in Power Plant of Durgapur Project Ltd. in January, 1974

100 SHRI K. M. MADHUKAR:
SHRI MOHAN SWARUP:

Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state

(a) whether a devastating fire took place in the power plant of the Durgapur Project Ltd on the 12th January, 1974,

(b) whether any enquiry has been conducted to find out the cause of the fire; and

(c) if so the results thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The West Bengal Government are enquiring into the matter The report in this regard has not yet been finalised.

Effect of Oil Price increase on India

101 SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAKODKAR
SHRI D D DESAI.

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state

(a) whether India has been hardest hit by oil prices increase; and

(b) if so, whether Government have taken any steps in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) India is amongst the many countries which has been very hard hit.

(b) Broadly the Government are taking steps in the following directions:

(i) Placing increasing reliance on alternative sources of energy

(ii) Curbing the in essential consumption of oil products.

(iii) Maximising exports to meet the cost of oil imports for the

essentially needed requirements of the economy.

(iv) Intensifying activity for maximisation of indigenous production of crude oil etc.

Construction of West Coast Railways from Apta to Mangalore

103. SHRI SHANKER RAO SAVANT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any decision has been taken regarding the construction of West Coast Railway from Apta to Mangalore;

(b) if so, the main features thereof?

(c) when will the construction work actually start; and

(d) whether any target for work on this line has been fixed for the year 1974-75, and if so, the broad outlines thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) to (d). A reconnaissance engineering-*cum*-traffic survey was carried out for a railway line from Apta to Mangalore. This survey showed that the line would be unremunerative. Nevertheless, in pursuance of the new concept for construction of new railway lines for development of backward regions of the country, as enunciated in para 41 of Minister of Railways' Speech in the Lok Sabha on 20th February, 1973 while presenting the Budget for 1973-74, a proposal has been made to the Planning Commission for allotment of additional funds in the Fifth Plan for construction of new lines, including Apta-Mangalore line on developmental considerations. Meanwhile, earthwork in the Apta-Dasgaon section (108 kms.) was taken up as a drought relief measure, by the Maharashtra Government during the recent drought. Detailed Survey between Dasgaon and Mangalore is also being provided in the Budget for 1974-75.

Decision regarding taking up construction can be taken only after the funds required for this project are allotted by the Planning Commission.

Go-slow tactics adopted by Signallers and Locomen

104. SHRI SHANKER RAO SAVANT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether recently some Railway workers, such as Signallers and Locomen, have adopted go-slow tactics and have refused to work beyond ten hours a day;

(b) what is the effect of these tactics on the movement of goods and passenger trains; and

(c) the steps taken or are proposed to be taken to meet this contingency?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) Yes. Go slow tactics were confined to some signallers and maintenance staff in loco sheds on a few railways in a limited way.

(b) Some trains suffered detentions.

(c) By an order issued under the Defence of India Rules any strike or go-slow tactics are prohibited for a period of six months with effect from 26-11-1973, by any railway employee.

Recommendation of River Water Disputes Commission regarding Krishna Basin

105. SHRI SHANKER RAO SAVANT:
SHRI B. N. REDDY:

Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the main recommendations of the River Water Disputes Commission regarding the Krishna Basin;

(b) whether any major and medium irrigation schemes in Maharashtra have been sanctioned by the centre as a result of these recommendations;

(c) whether the Commission has laid down any principles for resolving inter-state river water disputes; and

(d) if so, the main features thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) A statement containing the main decisions of the Krishna Water Disputes Tribunal is attached

(b) The State Government has been requested to have a review made of the various new projects proposed by them in the light of the Tribunal's decisions and forward modified project reports with upto date cost estimates and to indicate *inter-se* priority for the projects so that they could be processed further.

(c) and (d) The Tribunal has held that the right of States in an inter-State river is determined by applying the rule of equitable apportionment each unit getting a fair share of the water of the comomn river. The Tribunal has, however, stated that the concept of equitable apportionment does not lend itself to precise formulations. Each river system has its own peculiarities The apportionment of water must take into account the peculiar physical, hydrological, economic political and legal characteristics of the river system and the territory drained and served thereby and the solution of the dispute must be shaped accordingly.

Statement

The Krishna Water Disputes Tribunal constituted under the Inter-State Water Disputes Act, 1956 have, in their report, given the following main decisions:—

(1) The 75 per cent dependable flow of the Krishna upto Vijayawada has been determined at 2060 TMC and distributed amongst the three States. Maharashtra shall not use in any water year more than 565 TMC and Karnataka more than 695 TMC. Andhra Pradesh can use the remaining water, but shall not acquire any right for use of any water beyond 800 TMC. The States have also been allowed to use the return flows in the manner laid down by the tribunal.

(2) Out of the waters allocated to Maharashtra, this State should not divert more than 67 5 TMC out of the Krishna Basin from the Koyna Hydel Project annually and more than 212 TMC from the Tata Hydel works in any consecutive period of five years or more than 54.5 TMC in any year. The Tribunal have laid down the phasing for the reduction of the present westward diversion of 97 TMC on the Koyna Project No other westward diversion is permitted.

(3) Restrictions have been placed on the uses to be made in the Ghataprabha, Tungbhadra and Vedavati sub-basins, as well as from the main stream of the Bhima river and from the catchment of the Kagna river

(4) The Tribunal have also outlined a scheme for distribution of Krishna waters every year whereby flows up to 2060 TMC would be distributed in the proportion of 565·695·800 (Maharashtra: Karnataka· Andhra Pradesh) and flows above 2060 TMC would be shared equally by the three States. This would enable greater use of the Krishna Waters by having carry-over storages to conserve water from goods years. They have stated that this scheme may be brought into operation in case the States of Maharashtra, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh constitute an inter-State administrative

authority by agreement between them or in case such authority is constituted by legislation made by Parliament.

(5) The award may be reviewed at any time after 31st May, 2000 without disturbing any utilisation that may have been undertaken by any State within the limit of allocation made under this award. If in the meantime, there has been any augmentation of Krishna Waters, the States may press their claims for revision of the shares before such a reviewing authority.

वर्ष 1973 के दौरान विभिन्न श्रेणियों के रेल कर्मचारियों द्वारा हड़ताल

106. श्री शंकरराव स वंत

श्री महावीरक सिंह शाक्य

क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि।

(क) वर्ष 1973 (जनवरी से दिसम्बर) के दौरान विभिन्न श्रेणियो के रेल कर्मचारियो द्वारा कितनी तथा किस किस अवधि में हडतालें की गयी ;

(ख) प्रत्येक मामले मे हडताल समाप्त कराने के लिये क्या-क्या रियायतें दी गयी और इन में से प्रत्येक हडताल के दौरान कितने कर्मचारियों के विरुद्ध अनुशासनात्मक कार्यवाही की गयी ;

(ग) क्या किसी हड़ताल को गैर-कानूनी घोषित किया गया; यदि हां, तो किसे तथा गैर-कानूनी हड़ताल मे भाग लेने वालों के विरुद्ध क्या कार्यवाही की गयी है, और

(घ) क्या ऐसी कोई कार्यवाही बाद मे वापस ले ली गई ; और यदि हां, तो कितने व्यक्तियो के संबध में कार्यवाही वापस ली गई है ?

रेल मंत्रालय में उप-मंत्री (श्री मोहम्मद शफी कुरेशी) (क) से (घ). सूचना इकट्ठी की जा रही है और सभा पटल पर रख दी जायेगी :

Fertiliser factories working in Gujarat

107 SHRI D. P. JADEJA
SHRI ARVIND M. PATEL·

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state

(a) the number and names of Fertilizer factories working in Gujarat State, and

(b) the annual production during the last three years, year-wise and factory-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) and b).

Sl.No.	Name of the Factory		Production in terms of nutrients Nitrogen and Phosphate in '000 tonnes during			
			1970-71	1971-72	1972-73	1973-74 April—Jan.
1.	Gujarat State Fertilizer Co. Ltd. Baroda	Nitrogen Phosphate	149 25·3	185 24·4	203 31·7	142 24·6
2.	Adarsh Chemicals & Fertilizers Ltd. Udhna	Phosphate	5·1	7·6	6·7	5 4
3.	Alembic Chemicals Works Baroda	Phosphate	1·9	2·9	2·2	2·3
4	Anil Starch Products, Bhavnagar	Phosphate	1·6	2·7	1·2	1·1

Conversion of Howrah-Amta and Howrah-Sheakhala light Railway into Broad Gauge

108. SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the areas covered by Howrah-Amta and Howrah-Sheakhala formerly known as Martin Railway have been surveyed for changing the line into broad gauge; and

(b) if so, when will the work be undertaken and the likely expenditure thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) Yes.

(b) The work has already been approved through the Supplementary demands for grants in 1973-74. The details of participation of the State Government in the Capital Cost and operation of this line are under finalisation. The construction will be undertaken after this is finalised. The estimated cost for the project is about Rs. 13.5 crores.

Closure of sleeper foundries in West Bengal in mid-December, 1973

109. SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways did not place any orders for sleepers with the sleeper foundries, especially in West Bengal due to which many of the foundries had to completely close down in mid-December, 1973; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) On 12-11-1973, the Railway Board issued acceptance letters to 34 firms for the supply of Cast Iron Sleeper Plates and of these, 22 firms having their works located in West Bengal were offered a total quantity of 72,700 tonnes. So far only 8 West Bengal firms have agreed to supply 26,600 tonnes of Cast Iron Sleeper Plates.

(b) Does not arise.

इंडियन रेलवेज लोको मैकेनिकल स्टाफ एसोशिएशन का "वर्क टू रूल" (नियम अनुसार कार्य) का आह्वान

110. श्री रामावतार शास्त्री : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि।

(क) क्या इंडियन रेलवे लोको मेकेनिकल स्टाफ एसोसिएशन के आह्वान पर लोको शेडों में कार्य करने वाले मेकेनिकल कर्मचारियों ने 25 नवम्बर, 1973 से 24 जनवरी, 1974 तक नियमानुसार कार्य करने का आन्दोलन चलाया था ;

(ख) यदि हा, तो उनकी मागे क्या थी;

(ग) क्या उक्त आन्दोलन की समाप्ति मत्री महोदय के हस्तक्षेप पर हुई ; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो उनकी मांगों की पूर्ति के लिये सरकार ने क्या कार्यवाही की है ?

रेल मंत्रालय में उप मत्री (श्री मोहम्मद शफी कुरेशी) : (क) जी हां । नियमानसार काम का आन्दोलन पूर्व और दक्षिण पूर्व रेलो के कछ शड अनुरक्षण कर्मचारियों द्वारा किया गया था ।

(ख) उनकी मुख्य मांगे निम्नलिखित हैं :—

1. फैक्टरी अधिनियम को लोको शेडों पर लागू किया जाना चाहियें । इसके विपरीत फैक्टरी अधिनियम में यह शर्त है कि यह केवल वहां लागू होता है जहां कोई चीज निरन्तर निर्माण के प्रक्रम में हो और यह निश्चित रूप से अनुबंद्ध है कि यह अधिनियम लोको रनिंग शेडों पर लागू नहीं होगा ।

2. 8 वर्षों के बाद अकुशल ग्रेड से अर्धकुशल ग्रेड में पदोन्नति। उनकी ड्यूटी की प्रकृति को देखते हुए। यह सम्भव नहीं है कि क्योंकि उन्हें अधिक अकुशल कार्य करना होता है :

(ग) जी नहीं। परन्तु मंत्री जी ने एक आम अपील की।

(घ) प्रश्न ही नहीं उठता।

तेल उत्पादक देशों का सम्मेलन बुलाने के लिए रूस का प्रस्ताव

111. **श्री रामावतार शास्त्री :** क्या **पैट्रोलियम और रसायन** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या रूस ने विश्व के तेल संकट का हल निकालने के लिये तेल उत्पादक देशों का सम्मेलन बलाने का कोई प्रस्ताव रखा है ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसकी मोटी बात क्या हैं और सरकार की इस बारे में क्या प्रतिक्रिया है ?

पेट्रोलियम और रसायन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री शाह नवाज खां) : (क) और (ख). भारत सरकार को इस प्रकार के किसी प्रस्ताव की जानकारी नहीं है?

विभिन्न राज्यों में कोयला चालित बिजली घर स्थापित करना

112. **श्री रामावतार शास्त्री :** क्या **सिंचाई और विद्युत** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार ने विभिन्न राज्यों में छः बड़े-बड़े कोयला चालित बिजली घर स्थापित करने का निर्णय किया है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी मुख्य बातें क्या हैं ; और

(ग) उक्त योजना के कब तक क्रियान्वित होने की संभावना है ?

सिंचाई और विद्युत मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री सिद्धेश्वर प्रसाद). (क) से (ग). भारत सरकार ने विभिन्न प्रदेशों में कोयला क्षेत्रों में वृहद ताप विद्युत केन्द्र स्थलों के चयन के लिए एक समिति स्थापित की है। समिति ने विभिन्न स्थलों का दौरा किया है और इसके द्वारा शीघ्र ही रिपोर्ट प्रस्तुत करने की संभावना है।

उत्तरी बंगाल में डलखोला नामक स्थान पर तापीय विद्युत केन्द्र की स्थापना

113. **श्री रामवतार शास्त्री :**

श्री प्रिय रंजन दास मुंशी :

क्या **सिंचाई और विद्युत** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या पांचवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना काल में उत्तरी बंगाल के डलखोला नामक स्थान पर तापीय विद्युत केन्द्र स्थापित करने का निर्णय कर लिया गया है ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी मुख्य बातें क्या हैं ?

सिंचाई और विद्युत मंत्रालय में उप मंत्री (श्री सिद्धेश्वर प्रसाद) : (क) और (ख). उत्तरी बंगाल में डलखोला में में एक तापीय विद्युत केन्द्र की स्थापना के प्रश्न पर राज्य सरकार विचार कर रही है :

Pay Strike by loco running staff in Delhi division (Northern Railway)

114. SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the loco running staff in the Delhi division of the Northern Railway went on a 'Pay Strike' on the 11th January, 1974;

(b) if so, their demands; and

(c) the steps taken to redress their grievances?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) Yes.

(b) This was in protest against deduction of pay for the period of illegal strike during December, 1973.

(c) The principle of 'no work—no pay' has been enforced to discourage elements instigating strikes and agitations This is not a grievance and, therefore, no immediate steps were needed to be taken. On the Railways there is a well established system of redressing grievances at different levels, which include welfare inspectors, recognised labour unions and their branches covering the whole system, a Permanent Negotiating Machinery in three tiers from the D.S. to the Railway Board.

Supply of crude to Refineries

115. SHRI BHALJIBHAI PARMAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the supply of crude to our refineries is uncertain;

(b) whether a contract for supply of crude to Cochin Refinery has expired last year and no firm commitment has been received from any foreign supplier for the supply of crude to Cochin and Haldia, which are to go into production in June, 1974; and

(c) how do Government propose to meet with the requirements?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) At present crude oil is supplied to our refineries as programmed. In view of the steep increase in the price of crude oil and difficult foreign exchange position, there is an element of uncertainty in the continued supply for the balance of the year 1974.

(b) and (c). The contract for the supply of crude entered between the Cochin Refineries Limited and Total International Limited (a company with State participation in France) terminated on 31st December, 1973. Since this refinery has been supplied with crude oil from the Gulf Area by I.O.C. who have entered into contracts with M/s. Petromin of Saudi Arabia and I.N.O.C. of Iraq. In addition to this, 0.6 million tonnes of Rustom crude is available for this refinery

As regards the Haldia Refinery, the supply of crude oil for 1974 is being arranged under the Crude Oil Sales Agreement the Government of India and the Total International Limited.

Prices of crude imported by foreign oil companies and that of imported direct

116. SHRI BHALJIBHAI PARMAR:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the supply of crude which comes from foreign suppliers like Esso, Burmah Shell, I.B.P. is cheaper than the crude which the country proposes to import directly from Middle East countries; and

(b) if so, what is the difference between the prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) and (b). The foreign oil companies import crude into India on the basis of price arrangements with their own suppliers. The direct supplies of crude oil are made by the Indian Oil Corporation who has entered into agreements with the national oil companies of some of the oil producing countries for this purpose. It is not in the commercial interest of the Corporation to disclose the price at which the crude oil is being imported.

Delay in deciding future of foreign refineries in India

117. SHRI BHALJIBHAI PARMAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state

(a) whether long delay in negotiations on the future of foreign refineries in India has led to earning of massive dividends and repatriation of large amounts by these refineries; and

(b) if so, the broad outlines of the dividends paid and amounts repatriated in the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) and (b). No, Sir. Dividends of the Refining Companies are controlled according to the guidelines laid down by Government. As regards the Marketing Companies, their profits are controlled according to the guidelines laid down by the Oil Prices Committee after detailed costing.

Transfer of shares of B. N. Elias and Co. to Mr. R. P. Goenka

118. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a deal of transfer of shares of B. N. Elias & Co. to Mr. R P. Goenka;

(b) whether Duncan Brothers & Co. Ltd. have taken over management control of some of the group of companies controlled by B. N. Elias & Co; and

(c) if so, the main features thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA): (a) to (c). Information is being collected and it will be laid on the Table of the House.

Foreign exchange required to import crude oil in 1974

120. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA:

SHRI C K. CHANDRAPPAN

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of foreign exchange needed for the import of crude oil during the current year; and

(b) how this figure compares with the amount spent during 1972 and 1973?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) It is not possible at this stage to indicate the amount of foreign exchange needed for the import of crude oil during the current year because of uncertainty of crude oil prices.

(b) The amount of foreign exchange spent during 1972 was Rs. 144 28 crores. The provisional figure for the year 1973 is Rs. 240.71 crores.

Meeting with Chief Ministers of Punjab and Haryana on sharing of Ravi-Beas Waters

121. SHRI MOHINDER SINGH GILL: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chief Ministers of Punjab and Haryana met him recently in a bid to resolve their differences over the sharing of Ravi-Beas Waters; and

(b) if so, whether solution of this long-drawn dispute has since been found out?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The matter is to be discussed further.

Decision to enforce principle of 'No Work—No Pay'

122. SHRI A. K. M. ISHAQUE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a decision has been taken recently at a Conference of the Zonal General Managers of the Indian Railways to enforce the principle of 'no work, no pay' *vis-a-vis* the Railway employees; and

(b) what are the reactions of the employees of the Railways to the above decision?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) Yes.

(b) No such reactions have come to notice.

Increase in Prices of Furnace Oil and its Impact

123. SHRI A. K. M. ISHAQUE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether price of furnace oil has risen abnormally in the world market recently;

(b) if so, what additional foreign exchange will be needed for importing the same quantum of furnace oil as of last year because of the price rise; and

(c) whether Government worked out any alternative to furnace oil and its uses in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Prices this year nearly 300 per cent more than last year.

(c) Furnace oil used in the industries can, to a large extent, be replaced by coal. Govt. has constituted a Standing Committee under the Chairmanship of Secretary and Director General, Technical Development to recommead measures for a speedy switch over to coal of such oil-based industries which, on technological considerations, are capable of doing so.

Special Preference in Employment to Children of Railway Employees

124. SHRI A. K. M. ISHAQUE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a decision has been taken recently at a Conference of the Zonal General Manager of the Indian Railways to give special preference in employment on the Railways to the children of employees who rendered outstanding services during emergencies; and

(b) if so, what are the reactions of the employees of the Railways to the aforesaid decision?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) The General Managers made a recommendation that special consideration should be given to those employees who render exemplary service when considering their sons and daughters for employment. This has been accepted.

(b) It is too early to gauge the reactions of the employees, but the same are expected to be favourable.

Closure of Fourth Power Generation Unit of Patratu Thermal Power Station of Bihar State Electricity Board

125. SHRI JAGANNATH MISHRA: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Fourth 50 KW Power Generation Unit of Patratu Thermal Power Station of Bihar State Electricity Board has been closed down; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps Government propose to take to re-start it?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER): (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) and (b). The Fourth unit of 50 MW capacity at Patratu Thermal Power Station of Bihar State Electricity Board was under shut down for maintenance from 11th January, 1974 to 29th January, 1974 and is ready for operation since 30th January, 1974.

Legal Aid to the Poor

126. SHRI P. G. MAVALANKAR Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have completed their study of the Reports submitted by Justice P. N. Bhagwati Committee and Justice Krishna Iyer's Committee on the legal aid to the poor;

(b) if so, the broad conclusions arrived at by Government, and

(c) whether a Bill to provide legal aid to the poor is being drafted, and if so, when it will be introduced in the Parliament?

THE MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI NITIRAJ SINGH CHAUDHARY)· (a) No Sir. The study of the report submitted by Justice Krishna Iyer's Committee is still continuing. As regards the reference to Justice P. N. Bhagwati Committee's report in the question, it is submitted that it was a Committee appointed by the State Government of Gujarat and they are seized of the matter

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

Inclusion of Bhavnagar-Tarapur Railway Line in Fifth Five Year Plan

127. SHRI P. G. MAVALANKAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal for constructing the Bhavnagar-Tarapur Railway line in Gujarat is now finally and firmly accepted and included in the Fifth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the main features thereof indicating the date of starting the construction, the total cost estimated on this project and the amounts sought to be spent during the first three years of its construction; and

(c) the reasons for not starting this project earlier and the estimated extra expenses which will now be incurred?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) No

(b) Does not arise.

(c) A reference has been made to the Planning Commission soliciting concurrence for taking up construction of this rail link and for making adequate funds available for this purpose. No reply from the Planning Commission approving inclusion of this work in the Fifth Five Year Plan has been received. The question of sanctioning the project can be considered only after a reply is received from the Planning Commission. A final location engineering and traffic survey is proposed to be undertaken in 1974-75 to assess the correct cost and financial returns.

Organisational Set up of ONGC

128. SHRI P. G. MAVALANKAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) the organisational set up of the Oil and Natural Gas Commission; and

(b) the kind of liaison that exists and works between the ONGC and Government in regard to formulation of high policy making matters and their prompt and efficient implementation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) At present the Oil and Natural Gas Commission consists of six full-time Members, namely, Member (Exploration), Member (Engineering), Member (Finance), Member Production), Member (Stores) and Member (Off-shore) and one part-time Member—all appointed by the Central Government under the ONGC Act 1959 (43 of 1959). Member (Exploration) is also officiating as the Chairman of the Commission.

To plan, supervise and direct the field work and also to conduct other essential work at headquarters there are the Directorate of Geophysics, headed by a Chief and the Directorate of Geology, Drilling, Production, Mechanical Engineering, Inspection of Equipment Stores and Purchase, Planning and Coordination, Finance and Accounts and Administration, each headed by a Director, and the departments of Civil Engineering and Transport and Transportation, headed by a Chief Engineer (Civil), and Joint Director (Transport), respectively. Also there are the Hind Oil Design Institute and the Institute of Petroleum Exploration, under the charge of a Director and an Additional Director respectively.

The Directorates of Geophysics, Geology and the Institute of Petroleum Exploration are under the charge of the Member (Exploration). The Directorates of Drilling and Production and the Hind Oil Design Institute are under the charge of Member (Production). The Director of Mechanical Engineering and the Departments of Civil Engineering and Transport and Transportation are under the charge of Member (Engineering). The Directorate of Finance and Accounts is under the charge of Member (Finance). The Directorate of Administration, Inspection and Equipment and Planning and Coordination as well as the Vigilance Section, the Legal Section and the Secretariat are under the charge of Chairman.

The drilling and production operations are carried out in the various projects all over the country. Each project is under the charge of a Project Manager (or a Joint Manager or a Senior Deputy Manager). Projects in the Western region are under the over-all charge of a General Manager, whose office is located at Baroda. Likewise, there is General Manager for the Eastern region, whose office is at Nazira. The operations in the Upper Assam and the Garo Hills are managed by the General Manager, Eastern region, directly. For all other projects falling outside the Western and Eastern regions, the Director of drilling located at Dehra Dun is the General Manager. Administratively, the three General Managers are under the charge of the Chairman of the Commission.

Where a matter is beyond the power delegated to a Member or where a new scheme or a new policy is involved, the matter is decided at a meeting of the Commission by a majority vote of the Members present.

(b) In regard to formulation of high policy Government, wherever considered necessary, hold meetings with the Chairman and Members of the ONGC. Once the policy is laid down the implementation thereof is the responsibility of the Commission and the progress is reviewed through normal official channels including quarterly progress review meetings held by the

Secretary in the Ministry to which the Chairman and all Members of the Commission are invited.

New Jayanti Janta Express Train running between Delhi and Ahmedabad via Ajmer

129. SHRI P G MAVALANKAR Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state.

(a) whether a new 'Jayanti Janta Express' train has been running between Delhi and Ahmedabad *via* Ajmer since the Republic Day, 1974;

(b) the special facilities and extra services offered by the said train to the travelling passengers; and

(c) whether efforts are being made to reduce the running time of the said train as also of other fast trains already in service between Delhi and Ahmedabad, and if so, with what results?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI) (a) The existing 231 Up (31 Up)/32 Dn (232 Dn.) Delhi-Ahmedabad Janta Express has been converted into Jayanti Janta Type Express from 26th January 1974.

(b) A Pantry Car has been provided to meet the catering needs of passengers On request, passengers are supplied with bed rolls on payment The train is vestibuled

(c) Consequent on their dieselisation on the entire run, the overall running time of 231 Up (31 Up)/32 Dn (232 Dn.) Jayanti Janta Express has been reduced by 63 minutes and 40 minutes respectively as compared to their running time on steam traction The overall running time of 203 Up (3 Up)/4 Dn. (204 Dn.) Delhi-Ahmedabad Express has also been reduced by 55 minutes and 45 minutes respectively as compared to their running time on steam traction

Alleged Transfer of Shares of Orissa Concrete Products Ltd. to a Private Businessman

130. SHRI S. N. MISHRA: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a company by the name of Orissa Concrete Products Ltd. was set up by a technocrat entrepreneur under the Pilot Project Scheme of the Orissa Government;

(b) whether the shares of the Company were transferred to a private businessman unconnected with the Project and in violation of the objects of the scheme and the Articles of association of the Company;

(c) whether the entrepreneur had made a representation to the Central Government in this regard, and

(d) if so, what action has been taken by Government in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA) (a) Yes, Sir

(b) to (d) The question raised is already under investigation in consultation with the State Government of Orissa

Minimum Five Years' Tenure for Judges of High Courts and Supreme Court

131 SHRI S. N. MISRA:

SHRI BIRENDER SINGH RAO:

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have since taken any decision about the appointment of only such persons as Judges of the various High Courts and Supreme Court as would have a tenure of at least five years; and

(b) if not, the reasons for delay and the time by which a decision is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H. R. GOKHALE): (a) and (b). The Law Commission in their 14th Report on the Reform of Judicial Administration had recommended that the persons selected for appointment to the Supreme Court should have a tenure of at least 10 years. This recommendation was accepted by Government subject to the change that, save in exceptional cases, the minimum should ordinarily be 5 years. In respect of appointments to the High Courts, however, there is no such decision about a minimum tenure. There is no proposal to fix any minimum tenure in respect of High Court Judges.

Closing of Zuari Agro-Chemical Fertiliser Factory at Sanccale in Goa

132. SHRI S. N. MISRA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Goa Administration have decided to close the Zuari Agro-Chemical Fertilizer Factory at Sancoale;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of persons who are likely to be affected; and

(d) what steps the Central Government propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) Government are not aware of any such decision in this regard.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

Oil drilling by O. & N.G.C. in Arabian Sea

133 SHRI S. N. MISHRA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made by Oil and Natural Gas Commission in its drilling operations in the Arabian Sea;

(b) the amount spent so far by Government on this project; and

(c) the results achieved so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) One well drilled on the Tarapur Structure to depth of 2,782 metres approximately. The well had been projected to a depth of 4,500 metres but drilling had to be temporarily abandoned at the depth of 2782 metres approximately on account of complications encountered in the well. A second well has been spudded on the Bombay High structure on 3rd February, 1974.

(b) Total revenue expenditure incurred on drilling operations in this Project amounts to Rs. 392.72 lakhs upto 31st January, 1974.

(c) The wells have given valuable hithological and stratigraphical information pertaining to the sedimentary section down to the depths drilled. In the Tarapur well, in the lower part, a number of lime-stone horizons have been met with, some of which have given indications of the presence of natural gas. The gas indications are of general interest in regard to exploration work in this region, although those indications are not of commercial interest in the well drilled. In the well on the Bombay High Structure, no indication of the presence of oil or gas has been obtained down to the depth of 926 metres drilled upto 10th February, 1974.

Drilling of Oil in Tripura

134. SHRI DASARATHA DEB: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of places in Tripura where the drilling operations have been undertaken by Oil and Natural Gas Commission at present;

(b) the places in Tripura where further operations will be taken up during the Fifth Five Year Plan; and

(c) the prospect of oil and gas in Tripura?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) At one place on the Baramure structure.

(b) Further operations are proposed to be taken up on Gojalia, Tichna, Bachia Tulamura and Rokhla structure during the Fifth Plan period.

(c) On the basis of the available geological data, the prospects of oil and gas are considered favourable. However, the position in this regard will be finally known, only after drilling and testing of a number of wells in the area.

Ratio Percentage reserved in Promotional Grades for SC|ST maintained in wagon repair workshop, Kota

135 SHRI ONKAR LAL BERWA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the prescribed ratio percentage reserved in promotional grades reserved for SC/ST is being correctly maintained in Wagon Repair Workshop, Kota;

(b) if there is any deficiency, the reason therefor; and

(c) the number of Chargeman in Kota Shop belonging to ST community?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) Yes.

(b) (i) The vacancies occurring one in a recruitment year had to be treated as unreserved as per rules.

(ii) Suitable SC/ST candidates were not available.

(c) Two.

कोयले की कमी के कारण जनवरी 1974 के दूसरे सप्ताह के दौरान गाड़ियों का रद्द किया जाना

136. श्री ओंकार लाल बेरवा : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) कोयले की कमी के कारण जनवरी 1974 के दूसरे सप्ताह में कितनी रेलगाडियों को रद्द किया गया :

(ख) उन गाड़ियों का चलना कब बन्द होगा ; और

(ग) उस के परिणामस्वरूप कितनी धनराशि की हानि का अनुमान है ?

रेल मंत्रालय में उप-मंत्री (श्री मुहम्मद शफी कुरेशी) : (क) से (ग) सूचना इकट्ठी की जा रही है और यथा समय सभा पटल पर रख दी जायेगी ।

रेलवे अस्पताल, कोटा (पश्चिम रेलवे) के लिए पिछले तीन वर्षों में लोकल परचेज द्वारा की गई राशन, सब्जी, तथा दवाइयों की कीमत

137. श्री ओंकार लाल बरवा : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंग कि :

(क) पश्चिम रेलवे के कोटा स्थित अस्पताल के लिए पिछले तीन वर्षों में लोकल परचेज द्वारा मंगाये गये तेल , राशन, सब्जी तथा दवाइयों के लिए कितनी राशि व्यय की गयी ; और

(ख) चालू वर्ष के लिए मार्च, 1974 तक कितनी राशि का सामान क्रय किये जाने की योजना है ?

रेल मंत्रालय में उप मंत्री (श्री मुहम्मद शफी कुरेशी) : (क) और (ख). विवरण संलग्न है ।

विवरण

(क) वस्तुओं के नाम	1970–71	1971–72	1972–73	(ख) 1973–74 में खर्च की जाने वाली प्रत्याशित रकम
	रु० पैसे	रु० पै०	रु० पै०	रु० पै०
तेल/राशन* . .	7886.55	9877.35	14128.00	18300.00
सब्जियां	4821.70	4377.51	4910.15	6000.00
औषधियां	6023.24	2700.00	4227.63	10600.00
(केवल वे जो स्थानीय तौर पर खरीदी गई)				

*पृथक आंकड़े अभी उपलब्ध नहीं हैं ।

पश्चिम रेलवे में बिना फाटक और चौकीदार के रेलवे क्रासिंग

138. श्री ओंकार लाल बेरवा : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) पश्चिम रेलवे में कितने ऐसे रेलवे क्रासिंग हैं जहां फाटक पर चौकीदार नहीं है ;

(ख) इस सम्बन्ध में सरकार ने क्या प्रबन्ध किये हैं ;

(ग) क्या कोटा और बीना (पश्चिम रेलवे) के बीच अमरा रेलवे स्टेशन के पास रेलवे क्रासिंग संख्या 339, पर, जहां चौकीदार हैं, ग्रामीणों को एक से दो घंटे तक खड़ा रहना पड़ता है ; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ?

रेल मंत्रालय में उप-मंत्री (श्री मुहम्मद शफी कुरेशी): (क) श्रेणी 'ग' के बिना चौकीदार वाले समपारों की संख्या 4893 है ।

(ख) जिन समपारों पर सड़क और रेल यातायात, दोनों अधिक हैं और/या सीमित दूरी तक दिखाई पड़ता हैं , वहां चौकीदारों की व्यवस्था यातायात की गणना के आधार या राज्य सरकार /सड़क प्राधिकारियों के अनुरोध पर की जाती है और यह एक निरन्तर प्रक्रिया है । फिर भी, बिना चौकीदार वाले समपारों पर दुर्घटना में कमी करने के उद्देश्य से रोकथाम के जो उपाय किये गये हैं वे नीचे दिये गये हैं :—

(1) रेल सीमा के अन्तर्गत बिना चौकीदार वाले सभी समपारों के पहुंच

मार्गों पर रोक पट्टों को प्रमुख रूप से लगाया गया है ताकि सड़क उपयोग-कर्ताओं को चेतावनी दी जा सके कि रेलपथ को सावधानी पूर्वक पार करें।

(2) सड़क उपयोग कर्ताओं को अतिरिक्त चेतावनी के रूप में सीटी बजाने के पट्ट लगाये गये हैं ताकि समपारो के निकट पहुंचने वाली गाड़ियों के ड्राइवर बिना चौकीदार वाले समपारों तक पहुचते ही सीटी बजा दें।

(3) राज्य सरकारो से भी अनुरोध किया गया है कि बिना चौकीदार वाले सभी समपारों के पहुंच मार्गों पर सड़क पट्टों की व्यवस्था करें।

(4) मोटर वाहन अधिनियम के अन्तर्गत राज्य सरकारों ने इस आशय का नियम भी बनाया है कि यात्री बसो के ड्राइवर बिना चौकीदार वाले समपारो पर पहुचने से पहले अपने वाहन रोक दे और उस के बाद बस का कंडक्टर बस के आगे आगे चलकर बस को रेलवे लाइन से पार कराये।

(ग) जी नही।

(घ) प्रश्न नही उठता।

इटारसी भुसावल यात्री गाड़ी की दुर्घटना में हताहत व्यक्ति

139. श्री भागीरथ भवर : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) 12 दिसम्बर, 1973 को इटारसी भुसावल यात्री गाड़ी की हुई दुर्घटना में कितने व्यक्तियों की मृत्यु हुई तथा कितने व्यक्ति घायल हुये ;

(ख) क्या रेलवे ने घायल व्यक्तियो को कोई मुआवजा दिया है ; और

(ग) इस दुर्घटना के कारण क्या थे दोषी व्यक्तियों के विरुद्ध क्या कार्यवाही की गयी ?

रेल मंत्रालय में उप मंत्री (श्री मुहम्मद शफी कुरशी) : (क) 12-12-1973 को मध्य रेलवे के बुरहानपुर स्टेशन पर 358 अप इटारसी-भुसावल सवारी गाड़ी और एल-30 अप माल गाडी के बीच जो टक्कर हुई थी उस मे एक व्यक्ति मारा गया और 21 को चोटे आयी थी जिन मे से 6 व्यक्तियों को गम्भीर चोटे आयी थी।

(ख) अभी तक क्षतिपूर्ति के किसी दावे का भुगतान नही किया गया। लेकिन गम्भीर रूप से घायल होने वाले व्यक्तियों को 500—500 रुपये का भुगतान अनुग्रह के रूप मे किया गया है।

(ग) रेल सुरक्षा के अपर आयुक्त ने इस दुर्घटना की साविधिक जाच की है। उन के अतिम निष्कर्ष के अनुसार यह दुर्घटना रेल कर्मचारियो की गलती से हुई थी। रेल सुरक्षा के अपर आयुक्त की अतिम रिपोर्ट मिलने पर उपयुक्त कार्रवाई की जायेगी।

भट्टों की गली रेलवे स्टेशन (पश्चिमी रेलवे) के निकट ट्रक तथा गाडी के बीच हुई टक्कर

140. श्री भागीरथ भवर : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या 20 दिसम्बर, 1973 को भंट्टो की गली रेलवे स्टेशन (पश्चिमी रेलवे) के निकट एक ट्रक की एक रेलवे क्रासिंग के निकट सवाई माधोपुर से लूहास जाने वाली एक गाड़ी से टक्कर हो जाने के फलस्वरूप ट्रक में बैठे तीन व्यक्तियो की मृत्यु हो गयी

(ख) क्या यह दुर्घटना रेलवे-कर्मचारियों की लापरवाही के कारण हुई ; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो मृतकों के परिवारों को क्या कोई मुआवजा दिया गया है ?

रेल मंत्रालय में उप मंत्री (श्री मुहम्मद शफी कुरेशी) : (क) जी हां ।

(ख) जी नहीं ।

(ग) अब तक मृत व्यक्तियों के आश्रितों को कोई मुआवजा नहीं दिया गया है। किन्तु मरने वाले तीन व्यक्तियो के निकट सम्बन्धियों को 500-500 रुपये और गंभीर रूप से घायल होने वाले 3 व्यक्तियों को 300-300 रुपये का अनुग्रह के रूप मे भुगतान किया जा चुका है ।

Deployment of Territorial Army during Railwaymen's agitation of Dhanbad Division (Eastern Railway)

141. SHRI MOHAMMAD ISMAIL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) how many units of Territorial Army were utilised during the agitation of Railwaymen of Dhanbad Division in November-December, 1973;

(b) whether there were any accidents in which the trains or engines run by the Territorial Army personnel were involved; and

(c) if so, the total loss suffered due to these accidents?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI) (a) Two.

(b) None in Dhanbad Division.

(c) Does not arise.

Grant of Recognition to Unions of Employees of RDSO, Lucknow

142. SHRI MOHAMMAD ISMAIL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state whether the RDSO Karamchari Sang, Lucknow has made any claim for recognitions; and if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): In the pattern that is obtaining on the Ministry of Railways, recognition has been accorded to two staff associations in RDSO. As such it is not considered necessary to accord recognition to RDSO Karamchari Sang, although they are claiming it.

उत्तर प्रदेश के निर्वाचनों में सरकारी मशीनरी का उपयोग करने के लिए सत्तारूढ़ दल के विरुद्ध लगाये गये आरोप

143. **श्री भारत सिंह चौहान** : क्या न्याय और कम्पनी कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) उन राजनीतिक दलों के नाम क्या है जिनके नेताओ ने उत्तर प्रदेश के निर्वाचनो मे सत्तारूढ़ दल द्वारा सरकारी मशीनरी के उपयोग सबंधी आरोप लगाये है ;

(ख) ये आरोप क्या-क्या है ; और

(ग) क्या सरकार का विचार किसी सक्षम आयोग द्वारा इन आरोपो की जांच कराने का है ?

विधि, न्याय और कम्पनी कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री नीतिराज सिंह चौधरी) : (क) से (ग) : निर्वाचन आयोग को, समाजवादी दल, स्वतंत्र दल और भारतीय

क्रांन्ति दल से उत्तर प्रदेश के कतिपय मंत्रियों द्वारा शासकीय पद का दुरुपयोग करने, निर्वाचन के अवसर पर परियोजनाओं के शिलान्यास करने और मतदाताओं के विरुद्ध प्रपीड़क उपाय अपनाने और उन्हें धमकियां देने आदि के आरोप लगाते हुए शिकायतें प्राप्त हुई हैं। निर्वाचन आयोग ने समुचित कार्यवाही के लिए शिकायतें राज्य सरकार को भेज दी है।

कोयला ढोने के लिए उत्तर प्रदेश को सप्लाई किये गये वेगन

144. **श्री भारत सिंह चौहान :** क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) गत एक वर्ष में उत्तर प्रदेश में कोयला ढोने के लिये कितने बैगन दिये गये ; और

(ख) इसी अवधि में उत्तर प्रदेश में कोयला ढोने के लिये कितने वैगनों की मांग की गई थी ;

रेल मंत्रालय में उप-मंत्री (श्री मोहम्मद शफी कुरैशी) : (क) वर्ष 1973 के दौरान ईट पकाने के कोयले, साफ्ट कोक, हार्ड कोक और स्टीम कोयले की उत्तर प्रदेश स्थित लघु उद्योगों को ढलाई के लिये 39128 माल-डिब्बे आंबटित किये गये थे। इनमें केन्द्रीय एजेंसियों द्वारा बड़े उद्योगों और थर्मल पावर स्टेशनों को प्रायोजित कोयले की ढुलाई के आंकड़े शामिल नहीं है।

(ख) उत्तर प्रदेश राज्य स्थित लघु उद्योगों के लिये ईटें पकाने के लिये कोयले, साफ्ट हार्ड कोक और स्टीम कोयले की ढुलाई के लिये हर महीने 14,300 माल-डिब्बे नियत किये जाते हैं।

दिल्ली प्रशासन द्वारा ट्रकों द्वारा कोयला मगांने की व्यवस्था

145. **श्री भारत सिंह चौहान :** क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या दिल्ली प्रशासन ने रेल द्वारा कोयले की वर्तमान ढुलायी की अपर्याप्त तथा असंततोषजनक व्यवस्था को ध्यान में रखते हुये सड़क मार्ग से ट्रकों द्वारा कोयला मंगाने की व्यवस्था की है ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो रेल मंत्रालय द्वारा दिल्ली के लिये कोयला ढोने के लिये पर्याप्त व्यवस्था न कर सकने के क्या कारण हैं ?

रेल मंत्रालय में उप-मंत्री (श्री मोहमद शफी कुरैशी) : (क) और (ख) रेल प्रशासन को उन प्रबन्धों की जानकारी नहीं है जो दिल्ली में ट्रकों द्वारा कोयला लाने के लिये दिल्ली प्रशासन ने किये हैं। रेल कर्मचारियों द्वारा चलाये गये जिन अनेक आंदोलनों का प्रभाव दिसम्बर 73 से बंगाल/बिहार के कोयला क्षेत्रों से कोयले के लदान और परिवहन पर पड़ा था, उनके बावजूद रेलों ने जनवरी 74 में साफ्ट कोक के 1500 माल डिब्बों की सम्पूर्ण जरूरतों को पूरा किया है और फरवरी में कोयले की और अच्छी ढुलाई कायम रखी जा रही है।

सरकारी क्षेत्र में पैट्रोल पर खर्च में कमी

146 **श्री भारत सिंह चौहान :** क्या पेट्रोलियम और रसायन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या पेट्रोल के मूल्य में वृद्धि करते समय अन्य आशाओं के साथ-साथ एक आशय

यह भी था कि पेट्रोल की खपत कम हो जायेगी; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो जनवरी, 1974 के अन्त तक सरकारी क्षेत्र में इसकी कितनी बचत हुई है ?

पेट्रोलियम और रसायन मंत्रालय में राज्य-मंत्री (श्री शाहनवाज खां) : (क) जी हां।

(ख) मोटर स्पिरिट की खपत में नवम्बर, 1973 में 19.2%, दिसम्बर 73 में 16.9% और जनवरी 74 में 23.8% तक की गिरावट आई है, यह गिरावट गत वर्ष के तदनुरूप महीनों की तुलना में है।

बिहार के खगडिया सह जिला को गंगा नदी के कटाव से बचाने की योजना

147. **श्री ज्ञानेश्वर प्रसाद यादव :** क्या **सिंचाई और विद्युत** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या बिहार सरकार ने उस राज्य के खगडिया सह जिला को गंगा नदी के कटाव से बचाने हेतु एक विस्तृत योजना केन्द्रीय सरकार को भेजी है,

(ख) यदि हां, तो केन्द्रीय सरकार ने उस संबंध में क्या निर्णय लिया है और उक्त योजना पर कुल कितना व्यय किये जाने की सम्भावना है;

(ग) क्या गंगा के कटाव से उत्तर भागलपुर के बिहपुर प्रखंड एवं कटिहार जिला के काढ़ागोला और मनोहारी प्रखंड भी बुरी तरह प्रभावित होते हैं ; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो क्या उक्त योजना के अन्तर्गत बिहपुर प्रखंड एवं कटिहार जिला के उक्त क्षेत्र को भी कटाव से बचाने हेतु शामिल किया गया है और यदि नहीं, तो क्यों ?

सिंचाई और विद्युत मंत्रालय में उप-मंत्री (श्री सिद्धेश्वर प्रसाद): (क) से (घ): इस समय गंगा द्वारा कटाव का दाहिने तट पर राजेन्द्र पुल के बिल्कुल अनुप्रवाह की ओर क्षेत्रों तथा बाएं तट पर मानसी के प्रतिप्रवाह की ओर गोगरी नारायणपुर तटबंध के आस पास के क्षेत्रों पर कुप्रभाव पड़ता है। कटाव से सुरक्षा के लिये बिहार सरकार ने निम्नलिखित स्कीमें तैयार की हैं:—

(1) 2.2 करोड़ रुपये की अनुमानित लागत पर राजेन्द्र पुल के बिल्कुल अनुप्रवाह की ओर क्षेत्रों की सुरक्षा करना।

(2) चरण एक पर 3.51 करोड़ रुपये की लागत तथा चरण-दो पर 1.00 करोड़ रुपये की लागत से मानसी के प्रतिप्रवाह की ओर क्षेत्रों की सुरक्षा।

उपर्युक्त में से, 3.51 करोड़ रुपये की अनुमानित लागत वाली मानसी के प्रतिप्रवाह की ओर सुरक्षा उपायों के केवल चरण-एक के लिये स्कीम गंगा बाढ़ नियंत्रण आयोग द्वारा प्राप्त हो गई है तथा इसकी जांच की जा रही है।

राज्य सरकार गोगरी नारायणपुर तटबंध के निकट सुरक्षा उपायों का अन्वेषण कर रही है।

नारायणपुर स्टेशन पर 17 अप और 18 डाउन वैशाली एक्सप्रेस का ठहराया जाना

148. **श्री ज्ञानेश्वर प्रसाद यादव :** क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या पूर्वोत्तर रेलवे के नारायणपुर स्टेशन और सिलीगुड़ी के बीच और उसके आगे के लिये कोई एक्सप्रेस गाड़ी नहीं है

(ख) क्या एक्सप्रेस गाड़ी के न होने के कारण उक्त स्टेशन से मछली, दही और हरी सब्जियां जिनका उत्पादन उस क्षेत्र में पर्याप्त मात्रा में होता है, सिलीगुड़ी और गोहाटी को नहीं भेजी जा रही है ;

(ग) क्या इसके परिणामस्वरूप नारायणपुर रेलवे स्टेशन पर राजस्व में लगभग 1000 रुपये प्रतिदिन की हानि हो रही है; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार 17 अप और 18 डाउन वैशाली एक्सप्रेस को नारायणपुर में ठहराने की व्यवस्था करेगी ?

रेल मंत्रालय में उप मंत्री (श्री मोहम्मद शफी कुरैशी) : (क) सिलीगुड़ी और उससे आगे के स्टेशनों को जाने वाली कोई एक्सप्रेस गाड़ी नारायणपुर पर नहीं ठहरती ।

(ख) जी नहीं । नारायणपुर स्टेशन पर सिलीगुड़ी से आगे के स्टेशनों के लिये, जिनमे गौहाटी भी शामिल है, मछली, दही, और हरी सब्जिया का यातायात नहीं आता, सिलीगुडी के लिये ऐसी वस्तुओं का जो भी थोड़ा बहुत यातायात आता है, उसे सामान्यत. 86 डाउन बरौनी सिलीगुड़ी सवारी गाडी से भेज दिया जाता है । चूंकि कोयले की कमी के कारण इस गाड़ी का चलना कटिहार और सिलीगुड़ी के बीच, फिलहाल रद्द कर दिया गया है अत. कटिहार से यह यातायात सबद्ध गाडियों द्वारा भेज दिया जाता है ।

(ग) जी नहीं ।

(घ) 17 अप 18 डाउन वैशाली एक्सप्रेस गाड़ी को नारायणपुर में ठहराने का यातायात की दृष्टि से कोई औचित्य नहीं है।

रेलवे के घाटे को रोकने के लिए रेलवे मंत्रालय/विभाग के कर्मचारियों को निःशुल्क यात्रा पास जारी न करना

149. **श्री धनशाह प्रधान :** क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या रेलवे को निरन्तर हो रहे घाटे को रोकने अथवा उसमें कुछ कमी लाने के लिये रेलवे बोर्ड और रेल मंत्रालय के कर्मचारियों से घरेलू यात्रा का किराया लेने और उन्हे निजी यात्रा मुफ्त न करने का प्रस्ताव है;

(ख) क्या उक्त मंत्रालय के कर्मचारी उक्त सुविधा का दुरुपयोग करते है ;

(ग) समस्त रेलवे कर्मचारियों द्वारा की जाने वाली निजी यात्राओं से समस्त वर्ष में किराये के रूप में कुल कितनी धनराशि प्राप्त होगी , और

(घ) क्या वर्तमान स्थिति को ध्यान में रखते हुये सरकार उक्त प्रस्ताव पर विचार करेगी और यदि नहीं, तो इस सबंध मे क्या आपत्ति है ?

रेल मंत्रालय में उप मंत्री (श्री मोहम्मद शफी कुरैशी) : (क) जी नहीं । रेल कर्मचारियों को सुविधा पास देने से यह जरूरी नहीं है कि रेलवे को राजस्व की हानि हो ।

(ख) इस सुविधा के दुरुपयोग के जो भी थोड़े-बहुत मामले पकड़ मे आते है, उनमें उपयुक्त अनुशासनिक कार्यवाई की जाती है ।

(ग) 1972–73 के दौरान रेल कर्मचारियों को जारी किये गये सुविधा पासों का नकदी मूल्य लगभग 43.5 करोड़ रुपये है । वास्तव में उपयोग किये गये पासों का

मूल्य इस रकम से भी काफी कम रहेगा यदि न की गई यात्राओं या पास में लिखे हुरे व्यक्तियों से कम व्यक्तियों द्वारा की गई यात्राओं और गन्तव्य दूरी से कम दूरी तक की गयी यात्राओं का भी हिसाब लगाया जाये ।

(घ) जैसा कि भाग (क) के उत्तर में बताया गया है इस सुविधा को वापस लेने का कोई विचार नहीं है क्योंकि विश्व भर में परिवहन संगठन अपने कर्मचारियों को यात्रा सुविधाएं प्रदान करती हैं और यह एक ऐसी सुविधा है जिसका लाभ रेल कर्मचारी दीर्घ काल से उठा रहे हैं ।

विभिन्न कारणों से रेलवे को हुई हानि

150 श्री धनशाह प्रधान : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) दिसम्बर, 1973 के दौरान रेलवे सचल कर्मचारियों द्वारा हड़ताल और अन्य आन्दोलन करने, तोड़ फोड़, माल और यात्री गाड़ियों के न चलने और रेल सेवाओं के पूर्णतः अस्त व्यस्त हो जाने के कारण रेल मंत्रालय को कितनी राशि की हानि हुई ;

(ख) कितने अधिकारियों और कर्मचारियों को निलम्बित किया गया है और कितने कर्मचारियों के विरुद्ध कार्यवाही की गई है , और

(ग) भविष्य में ऐसी अव्यवस्था के बारे में कर्मचारियों/अधिकारियों और सरकार के बीच क्या कोई समझौता हुआ है और यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है और क्या इस बारे में कोई ठोस कार्यवाही की गई है ?

रेल मंत्रालय में उप मंत्री (श्री मोहम्मद शफी कुरैशी) : (क) और (ख) . सूचना इकट्ठी की जा रही है और सभा पटल पर रख दी जायेगी ।

(ग) 13-8-73 को संसद में रेल मंत्री द्वारा दिये गये बयान में यह घोषणा की गयी थी कि "जिन मामलों पर विचार विमर्श और करार हो चुका है, उनके संबंध में इस करार की तारीख से लेकर तीन वर्ष तक किसी तरह की सीधी कार्यवाही का आश्रय नहीं लिया जायेगा ।"

मध्य प्रदेश में रेलवे लाइनों की प्रतिव्यक्ति लम्बाई

151. श्री माधवराव सिन्धिया :

श्री धनशाह प्रधान :

क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि मध्य प्रदेश में एक लाख व्यक्तियों के पीछे रेलवे लाइनों की लम्बाई कितनी है और अखिल भारतीय औसत की तुलना में यह कितनी है ?

रेल मंत्रालय में उप मंत्री (श्री मोहम्मद शफी कुरैशी) : मध्य प्रदेश में एक लाख जनसंख्या पर 13.82 मार्ग किलोमीटर रेलवे लाइन है जबकि अखिल भारतीय औसत 11.01 है ।

भटिण्डा रेलवे स्टेशन पर पंजाबी भाषा में नोटिसों का लगाया जाना

152. श्री चन्दूलाल चन्द्राकर : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या भटिण्डा रेलवे स्टेशन पर लगे सभी नोटिस पंजाबी भाषा में हैं और राष्ट्र भाषा हिन्दी का एक शब्द भी पूरे स्टेशन पर नहीं दिखाई देता है ;

(ख) क्या वहा पर आने वाले अधिकांश यात्री उत्तरी भारत के हिन्दी भाषी क्षेत्रो के होते है ; और

(ग) इस बारे में सरकार का विचार क्या कार्यवाही करने का है ?

रेल मंत्रालय में उप मंत्री (श्री मोहम्मद शफी कुरैशी) : (क) जी नही ।

(ख) आने जाने वाले यात्रियों के भाषावार आंकडे नही रखे जाते ।

(ग) प्रश्न नही उठता ।

21 दिसम्बर, 1973 को बम्बई-पूना एक्सप्रेस गाडी का पटरी से उतर जाना

153. श्री चन्दूलाल चन्द्राकर : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार ने 21 दिसम्बर, 1973 को बम्बई-पूना एक्सप्रेस गाडी के पटरी से उतर जाने के कारणो की जाच कराई है ,

(ख) यदि हा, तो उसके क्या परिणाम है,

(ग) इससे रेलवे को कितनी हानि हुई ; और

(घ) कितने व्यक्ति घायल हुये ?

रेल मंत्रालय में उप मंत्री (श्री मोहम्मद शफी कुरैशी) : (क) और (ख) . बम्बई स्थित रेल संरक्षा के अपर आयुक्त ने इस दुर्घटना की साविधिक जाच की है । उनके अनन्तिम निष्कर्षों के अनुसार गाडी का पटरी से उतरने का कारण उपस्कर की खराबी थी ।

(ग) इस दुर्घटना मे रेल सम्पत्ति को लगभग 17,55,000 रुपये की हानि होने का अनुमान लगाया गया है ।

(घ) इस दुर्घटना मे किसी की मृत्यु नही हुई । लेकिन 29 व्यक्तियों को चोटें आयी जिनमे 7 गम्भीर रूप से घायल हुये थे ।

Negotiations with Soviet Oil Minister for Assistance to solve Oil Crisis

154. SHRI N. K. SANGHI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state·

(a) whether the question of short term and long term Soviet assistance to help this country to tide over the prevailing oil crisis was discussed by Government with the Soviet Oil Minister during his visit to this country in January, 1974;

(b) if so, the nature of short term assistance that has been promised by the USSR and to what extent it will augment the supplies of petroleum and petroleum products in the country, and

(c) the particulars of the long term measures that have been agreed upon between the two countries where Soviet assistance will be available?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) to (c) The Soviet Oil Minister and his delegation visited India in January, 1974, as a part of the continuing process of Indo-Soviet Cooperation in the field of Oil exploration development and production in the public sector Various aspects of ONGC achieving the goal of increasing its production from the present 4.11 million tonnes per annum to 8.42 million tonnes per annum by the end of the Fifth Five Year Plan were discussed. The main tasks for increasing oil production at this stage were identified as—

(i) quick development of the known fields;

(ii) maximum utilisation of the existing production wells; and

(iii) wider application of economic and highly effective secondary recovery methods.

Not only short term assistance was discussed during this visit. Soviet assistance envisaged is in context of the total Five Year Plan of the ONGC covering, among other things supply of machinery and equipment, deputation of Soviet specialists to India, training of Indian specialists in the Soviet Union, supply of certain sophisticated tools, etc.

Memorandum submitted by Co-ordination Committee, North-east Frontier Railway, Katihar

155. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a memorandum had been submitted to the Railway Minister by the Co-ordination Committee, North-east Frontier Railway, Katihar on the 22nd March, 1973, and

(b) if so, gist thereof and action taken thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) Yes.

(b) The demands contained in the Statement laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-6153/73].

Such issues are raised from time to time by recognised labour organisations and are settled through discussions in the meetings of the Permanent Negotiating Machinery and the Joint Consultative Machinery at different levels. Further, representations coming from any source, including unrecognised Unions, are given due consideration and action, as is appropriate in each case, is taken.

Whatever demands are presented to the administration are given due consideration with the utmost sympathy. It has to be realised by staff that just because certain demands have been voiced it does not mean that they should be conceded forthwith. Government have to consider the demands taking into consideration factors like financial resources, the framework of the rules and regulations, justification for accepting the demands and the repercussions of their acceptance.

Import of Crude Oil by Foreign Oil Companies from Persian Gulf Countries

156 SHRI P. M. MEHTA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether foreign oil companies have been asked to import oil from their own sources in Persian Gulf countries at the most favourable prices:

(b) if so, whether the oil companies had intimated the new prices of crude effective from January 1, 1974 after the Teheran announcement about doubling the prices of crude by the Gulf countries; and

(c) whether Government had not received any intimation of the new prices of the crude imported under Government contracts from Saudi Arabia and Iraq?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) The oil companies are already doing so

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir.

Construction of Salt Water Barrier at Thannir Mukkom

157. SHRI M. K. KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have considered the proposal received from Kerala Government for the construction of Salt Water Barrier at Thannir Mukkom;

(b) if so, the main features thereof; and

(c) the decision taken by Government thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) to (c). The Thannir-Mukkom regulator scheme in Kerala estimated to cost Rs. 150 lakhs was sanctioned by the Planning Commission in 1958, and is being implemented by the Government of Kerala. The Government of Kerala had sent revised estimates for the work raising the cost to Rs. 458.50 lakhs. After examination of the estimates, comments have been sent to the State Government replies to which are awaited.

Proposal to make changes in the M.R.T.P Act

158. DR. RANEN SEN: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission has requested Government to make adequate changes in the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act so as to give the Commission more powers; and

(b) if so, the nature of changes suggested by the Commission and the Government's reaction thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA): (a) and (b). In chapter (V) (pages 18—23) of the Annual Administrative Report of the working of the M. R. T. P. Commission for the year ending 31st December, 1972, laid on the Table of House on the 13th December, 1973, the Commission has mentioned that there are certain inadequacies in the provisions of the M. R. T. P. Act and suggested that Government may take early steps to amend the Act. These suggestions are being considered alongwith other amendments that may be necessary.

Doubling of Railway Track from Dum Dum Junction to Bongaon

159. DR. RANEN SEN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether people living in areas served by Sealdah-Bongaon Railway line of Eastern Railways have recently submitted an appeal to the Ministry to double the Railway track from Dum Dum Junction to Bongaon and whether such a request has also been made by the Transport Minister of West Bengal to the Railway Minister; and

(b) if so, the Minister's reaction to the appeal?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) Yes.

(b) A techno-economic survey undertaken for doubling of the section has revealed that this project will be unremunerative. The question of waival of dividend liability on the investment on the scheme is therefore being taken up with the Planning Commission and the Ministry of Finance.

Delay in construction of Fertiliser and Refinery Units at Haldia

160. DR. RANEN SEN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether construction of Fertilizer and Refinery units proposed for

Haldia, West Bengal are being delayed; and

(b) if so, reasons thereof and steps proposed to expedite them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. According to present indications the Haldia Fertilizer Project is expected to be completed by March 1976. The delay so far is only marginal.

As regards Haldia Refinery, the Fuel Sector is likely to be completed by mid-1974 and Lube Sector by end-1974. Construction of the Refinery has been delayed mainly on account of the multiplicity of agencies involved, delays in delivery of materials by the Indian and foreign vendors, scarcity of construction material, non-availability of wagons, frequent labour troubles, etc.

All steps necessary for accelerating the progress of work have been taken to ensure that the projects are completed according to the schedule mentioned above.

Impact of increase in prices of crude and Petroleum

161. DR. RANEN SEN:
SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether consequent upon the increase in price of crude, petroleum and oil products, India will have to spend enormous sum of money to meet the price rise; and

(b) if so, India's plan to meet this increase in price?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A number of measures are in hand to curb the consumption of petroleum products and to see that there are no undue strains on the vital sectors of the economy of the country to the extent possible.

Remuneration to commission vendors in Railways

162. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the rate of remuneration to the commission vendors in each Railway;

(b) whether the Vendors in Southern Railway are paid less than their colleagues in other Railways;

(c) whether the Vendors of Southern Railway have submitted a charter of demands and have started agitation; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by Government to settle the issue?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-6154/74.]

(c) Yes, there was agitation by the vendors from 16-1-1974 to 20-1-1974.

(d) With effect from 1-2-1974 the rate of commission payable to commission vendors working at Madras Central has been increased to 12 per cent on all items except tobacco products and matches.

Deployment of retired Loco Running Staff during December, 1973

163. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) how many retired Loco Running Staff were employed during December, 1973 to run essential services;

(b) whether they were found medically fit to run the train services, and

(c) whether they were paid more than they were entitled under the normal rules of re-employment and if so, who authorised such payment?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) 130

(b) Most of the re-employed staff were medically examined and found fit; a few were not as they had recently retired from railway employment and medical examination was not considered necessary and also because they were employed on urgent work during the emergency.

(c) They were paid daily rates of wages plus mileage allowance wherever admissible

Election of Railwaymen's representatives to Staff Councils

164. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any restriction has been imposed on the Railwaymen about their rights to elect their representatives or being elected to the Staff Councils:

(b) if so, the reasons therefor, and

(c) whether Government have received any protest in this regard and how the same has been disposed of?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) to (c). In order to enable more staff to seek election to the Staff Councils, it has been decided that no member of the Staff Council shall hold office for more than two terms. Protests in this respect are being dealt with accordingly.

Shortage to Kerosene Oil in Ghaziabad

166. SHRI YAMUNA PRASAD MANDAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHMICALS be pleased to state.

(a) whether Government are aware of the acute shortage of Kerosene oil in Ghaziabad;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the remedial measures adopted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) (a) to (c) During January and February, 1974 availability of Kerosene Oil in the country has been less than the demand leading to the curtailment of the quotas for States Besides, during the loco staff strike in December, 1973, and work-to-rule of the Railway staff etc, movement of POL was adversely affected on the Railways creating pockets of scarcity

As in other parts of Uttar Pradesh, Kerosene Oil is released to consuming public in Ghaziabad according to the procedure laid down by the District authorities. IOC is in constant touch with the District authorities and continuous effects are being made to rush supplies to the affected areas No specific resports have, however, been received of any acute shortage of Kerosene Oil in Ghaziabad.

Expenditure on elections to U.P State Assembly in 1969

167. SHRI YAMUNA PRASAD MANDAL: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state the

total expenditure on UP State Assembly elections in 1969?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI NITIRAJ SINGH CHAUDHARY): The total expenditure incurred by the State Government on the U.P. State Assembly Elections in 1969 was Rs. 1,59,68, 000.

Delay in completion of Tube Railway in Calcutta

168. SHRI YAMUNA PRASAD MANDAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the completion of Tube Railway in Calcutta is likely to be delayed; and

(b) if so, the tentative time by which it would be completed?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) and (b). There has been no revision in the orginal time schedule for the construction and commissioning of the Tube Railway Project which is 1979. But acquisition of properties and diversion plan for road traffic may bring about new unforeseen situations to be tackled at the appropriate time.

Losses incurred by major irrigation projects

169. SHRI M. SUDARSANAM:

SHRI SHIV KUMAR SHASTRI:

Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWEER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the losses incurred so far by major irrigation projects since 1951 are over Rs. 1,000 crores;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) to (c). Irrigation projects are designed to increase agricultural production, and the economics of such projects are assessed on the benefit cost ratio approach. Generally, all irrigation projects taken up have a favourable ratio of benefits to costs. However, due to low water rates charged by the State Governments, increasing cost of construction and maintenance of projects, and leg in utilisation of created potential, the revenues to Government have progressively fallen short of expenditure and in that sense Government revenues have suffered a loss. With the increase in the number of irrigation projects, the extent of this loss has been going up, and was Rs. 130 crores in 1971-72. The Centre has been advising the States to increase irrigation rates, and in the Fifth Plan the ommand area development programmes have been included for ensuring optimum utilisation of water.

Derailment of Deccan Express in December, 1973

170 SHRI M SUDARSANAM:

SHRI RAM PRAKASH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Deccan Express derailed in the last week of December, 1973;

(b) if so, the number of casualties; and

(c) the amount of compensation given to the families of the deceased?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) Train

No. 305 Down Bombay-Pune Deccan Express derailed between Ghorawadi station and Shelarwadi cabin of Central Railway on 21-12-1973.

(b) In this accident no one was killed. However 29 persons sustained injuries of whom 7 were hurt grievously.

(c) No compensation has so far been paid to any one. Only an *ex-gratia* payment of a total of Rs. 4,000 has been made to the injured persons.

Suggestions from task force regarding prices of 24 bulk drugs

171. SHRI M. SUDARSANAM: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a task force of his Ministry has suggested a restriction on the prices of 24 bulk drugs; and

(b) if so, the decision of the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) and (b) No task force has been set up in the Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals on the prices of 24 bulk drugs. The reference is perhaps to the Report of the Working Group under Chairmanship of the Chairman of the BICP on the cost structure of 24 bulk drugs. The Report of the Working Group is under consideration of the Government

Discussion with Russian Oil Experts

172. SHRI M. SUDARSANAM:
SHRI RAM PRAKASH:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether oil experts from Soviet Union visited our country recently; and

(b) if so, the nature of discussions held by them with the Indian officials?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN).: (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The discussions pertained to further expansion of the already existing Indo-Soviet co-operation in the field of oil exploration, development and production in the Public Sector in India. These discussions were held for achieving quick development of the already known oil fields and for maximum utilisation of the existing productive wells. The Soviet side has agreed to expedite Soviet assistance in terms of experts and supply of equipment for boosting the Indian effort in exploration, drilling and production of oil.

Measures suggested by GSI for off-shore oil exploration

174 SHRI VASANT SATHE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state·

(a) the measures suggested by the Geological Survey of India for proper survey and exploration of continental shelf along the coastal region of the country to make the country self-sufficient in fossil oil;

(b) the action taken or proposed to be taken on these measures; and

(c) the steps taken to strengthen the marine geological wing and Survey of sub-Himalayan region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHANAWAZ KHAN): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

Action taken on Railway Minister's Study Team Report on Coal Transport Planning

175. SHRI VASANT SATHE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether action has been taken on Report of Study Team on Coal Transport Planning;

(b) if so, salient features of the action taken; and

(c) other measures taken to meet the periodic coal shortages in the industrial centres?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) to (c). The Reports submitted by the Coal Transport Study Teams are under consideration of the Government.

Development of a new fertilizer 'Sanjeevani'

176. SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether 'Sanjeevani', a new type of fertilizer has been developed in India; and

(b) if so, the main features regarding its utilisation alongwith its cost?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) and (b). Government have presently no knowledge of such a fertilizer. However, enquiries are being made and information will be laid on the Table of the House.

Feasibility studies by F.C.I. for setting up coal-based fertiliser plants

177. SHRI C. K. JAFFAR SHARIEF: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has asked the Fertiliser Corporation of India to take up feasibility studies for the setting up of additional coal-based fertiliser plants;

(b) whether the cost of Urea produced in coal-based plants was estimated at Rs. 354 per tonne, while the cost of urea produced from naphtha at the same site was estimated between Rs. 395 and Rs 434 per tonne;

(c) if so, the broad outlines regarding the policy of Government in this regard; and

(d) whether the Corporation is also investigating the possibility of locating coal-based fertiliser plants in Assam and, if so, the broad outlines thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. The figures here refer to the studies made in 1970 and the production costs are prior to return on the capital employed.

(c) Three large-sized coal-based fertilizer projects are being implemented by the Fertilizer Corporation of India at Talcher (Orissa), Ramagundam (Andhra Pradesh) and Korba (Madhya Pradesh).

(d) The Fertilizer Corporation of India is also conducting feasibility and locational studies for establishment of coal-based plants at various locations, including Assam.

Restoration of power cut in Punjab

178. SHRI RAGHUNANDAN LAL BHATIA: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether 40 per cent power cut was imposed in Punjab recently;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to restore the cut?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHR SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Due to increase in demand for power and inadequate availability of energy in the System, the Punjab Authorities have imposed selective restrictions on power consumption, the maximum cut being 40 per cent

(c) The restoration of the cuts would depend upon improvements in the energy availability All possible steps are being taken for maximising generation and expediting commissioning of new projects

Supply of oil to Steel Plants and other establishments

179. SHRI M. S. PURTY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state

(a) whether Government have decided that no immediate cuts should be imposed on supplies of oil to steel plants, power generation units, fertiliser factories, railways, defence installations and defence production units, and

(b) if so, whether the earlier circular issued to refineries for curtailment of supplies to steel plants and power units is being withdrawn; and

(c) if so, the facts thereof

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN). (a) In view of the steep increase in prices of crude oil and refined petroleum products and the critical Furnace Oil availability in the world market, it has not been possible to meet the Furnace Oil requirements of the country in full The Government have, therefore, advised the oil companies to meet upto 90 per cent of the requirements, of industries based on the past off-takes This 10 per cent cut has been imposed uniformly for all consumers for the months of January and February, 1974

(b) and (c) Do not arise

Decision to market blue kerosene oil

180 SHRI PRABODH CHANDRA
SHRI R R SINGH DEO

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state

(a) whether Government have decided to market in the country blue kerosene oil; and

(b) if so the reasons and the advantages thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) (a) The proposal of colouring kerosene in blue is under the active consideration of the Government

(b) The advantage of dyeing kerosene will facilities detection if it is dulterated with Motor-Spirit

Poor Financial results by Electricity Boards

181 SHRI PRABODH CHANDRA: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state.

(a) whether Electricity Boards in various States would show poor finan-

cial results by the end of current financial year; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) It has been estimated that the overall working results of the State Electricity Boards during 1973-74 would be similar to the results of 1972-73. While all the State Electricity Boards would be meeting their operating, maintenance and depreciation charges, a majority of the Boards would not be able to meet their interest charges in full.

(b) The State Governments are primarily concerned with the functioning of the State Electricity Boards. The Central Government has, however, advised the State Governments to improve their financial working in accordance with the recommendations of the Venkataraman Committee. The efforts being made by the Centre to assist the State Electricity Boards to improve the operating efficiency of their plants, and reduce transmission losses is also expected to lead to an improvement of the financial position.

Amendment of Constitution in order to Lower the Voting Age

182 SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken a final decision with regard to the granting of voting right at the age of eighteen;

(b) whether there is any proposal that this right be granted before the 1976 General Elections; and

(c) when is the required constitutional amendment likely to be brought forward?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI NITI-RAJ SINGH CHAUDHARY): (a) to (c). No, Sir. As the matter is still under consideration, any further action in this behalf will necessarily depend upon the final decision which is yet to be taken.

New Railway Lines from Cochin to Kayamkulam via Alleppy, Tellicherry to Mysore via Coorg and Kottayam to Madurai via Sabarimali

183. SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Kerala has once again requested the Centre recently to survey and construct certain new Railway lines in Kerala;

(b) if so, the gist thereof;

(c) whether Government are reconsidering its earlier decision about the construction of Railway lines between Cochin and Kayamkulam *via* Alleppy, Tellicherry and Mysore *via* Coorg and Kottayam and Madurai *via* Sabarimali; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) and (b). The Kerala State Government have been representing for a railway line from Cochin to Kayamkulam *via* Alleppy. A Traffic Survey was carried out in 1970 which revealed that the line will be unremunerative.

(c) and (d). The proposed rail links being highly unremunerative, economically not viable, and involving huge expenditure, cannot be undertaken at present, due to the difficult financial position.

Sanction of Hydro-Electric and Irrigation Projects in Kerala

184. SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the hydro-electric and irrigation projects proposed by the Kerala Government to the Centre is still pending sanction;

(b) the new projects Government have sanctioned for the years 1973-74 and 1974-75; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to expedite the execution of these projects?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) A statement showing the new hydro-electric and irrigation projects proposed by the Government of Kerala and pending for clearance by the Planning Commission is attached.

(b) The following new schemes have been approved so far during 1973-74 by the Planning Commission for inclusion in the developmental plans of Kerala:—

(1) Idikki Hydro-electric project-Stage. II.

(2) Silent Valley Hydro-electric Scheme.

(3) Idamalayar Hydro-electric Scheme.

The other projects are under examination and will be considered for clearance as and when such examination is completed, keeping in view the resources likely to be available for their implementation.

(c) The State Government have been urged to allocate the maximum possible funds to complete the schemes already in hand. A special Central assistance of Rs. 2.8 crores was also provided to the State Government in the current year to accelerate work on the Idikki Stage I Project.

Statement

Serial	Name of the Scheme
Hydro-Electric Projects	
1.	Kerala Bhavani Multi-purpose project.
2	Mannthody Multi-purpose Project.
3.	Pandiyar-Punnapuzha Hydro-Electric Project.
4.	Kakkad (Sabirigiri Tail Race) Hydro-Electric Project.
5.	Idikki Hydro-Electric Project. Stage-III
Irrigation Projects	
6.	Banasurasagar (Cannanore).
7	Tirunelli (Cannanore).
8.	Kerala Bhawani (Tailrace) (Palghat).
9.	Karapuzha (Koshikode).
10.	Attappady (Palghat).
11.	Noolapuzha (Koshikode).
12.	Manjat (Koshikode).
13.	Thondar (Cannanore).
14	Periyar Valley (Idikki).
15.	Vamanapuram (Trivandrum).

Setting up of Irrigation and Power Projects in Madhya Pradesh in 5th Plan

185. SHRI R. S. PANDEY. Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up any new irrigation and power

projects in Madhya Pradesh during Fifth Five Year Plan; and

(b) if so, the main features thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) and (b). Particulars of the new major irrigation and Power projects proposed to be undertaken by the Government of Madhya Pradesh during the Fifth Plan are indicated below:—

Project	Estimated cost	Ultimated benefits	
	Rs. lakhs	Irrigation thousand ha	Installed power capacity MW
Bargi	6623	330·87	
Narmadasagar multipurpose	11130	250·10	10x100
Bansagar multipurpose	scope being revised	248·88	Being revised
Hasdeo Bango	5892	261·43	3x50
Upper Wainganga	1602	69·20	.. ..
Parvati	1820	90·56	.. ..
Upper Tapi Stage—II	8793	46·691	(M.P)
(Jointly with Maharashtra)		59·849	(Maharashtra)
Rajghat	Under investigation		
Ken	Under investigation	..	
Satpura Thermal Station Extension	7519	..	2x200
Korba Thermal Station Extension	4400	..	2x110
Korba West Thermal Station	7680	..	2x200
Bodhghat hydel project	3773	..	3x80
Maheswar hydel project	1830	..	3x40
Haranphal hydel project	3831	..	4x50

Price of a Barrel of Crude Oil

186. SHRI R S PANDEY Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state the present price of a barrel of crude oil and the freight charges paid by India for importing crude?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) It is not possible to determine the present average price of imported crude oil (FOB plus freight) as the prices of a number of crude oils are still provisional owing to the non-finalisation of the discussions between some of the oil producing countries and the international oil companies

Law to bar persons having wealth above certain limit from contesting Election and holding Public Offices

187 SHRI K MALLANNA Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of Government to enact a law that persons having wealth above a certain limit should be disqualified from contesting any election and holding public offices, and

(b) if so, the salient features thereof, and if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI NITI-RAJ SINGH CHAUDHARY) (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise

कोयले के अभाव के कारण बिजलीघरों का बन्द हो जाना

188. श्री महादीपक सिंह शाक्य . क्या सिंचाई और विद्युत् मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या कोयले के अभाव के कारण हाल ही में देश में अनेक बिजलीघर बन्द हो गये है,

(ख) यदि हां, तो उनके नाम क्या है और इसके परिणामस्वरूप कितनी हानि हुई है; और

(ग) इस संबंध में सरकार ने क्या कदम उठाये है ?

सिंचाई और विद्युत् मंत्रालय में उप मंत्री (श्री सिद्धेश्वर प्रसाद) : (क) और (ख) कोयले की कमी के कारण देश मे हाल मे कोई बडा ताप विद्युत् केन्द्र बन्द नही किया गया । बहरहाल, यह सूचित किया गया है कि उत्तर प्रदेश मे केवल मऊ ताप विद्युत केन्द्र (15 मेगावाट) को कोयला उपलब्ध न होने के कारण कुछ दिना के लिए बन्द करना पडा था । इसके अतिरिक्त, दिसम्बर, 1973 और जनवरी, 1974 के दौरान कोयले की कमी के कारण निम्न-लिखित विद्युत् केन्द्रा को लोड-शेडिंग करना पडा:—

केन्द्र	क्षमता मेगावाट
1 कानपुर (उत्तर प्रदेश)	87.5
2. सोहवाल (उत्तर प्रदेश)	19.5
3 चन्दौसी (उत्तर प्रदेश)	10.6
4 साहुपुर (गुजरात)	16.0
5. गोरखपुर (उत्तर प्रदेश)	15.0

उपर्युक्त विद्युत् केन्द्रों को बन्द करने/ लोड-शैडिंग के कारण विद्युत् उत्पादन में हुई वास्तविक हानि का मूल्यांकन नहीं किया गया है ।

(ग) खान विभाग और तेल मंत्रालय दोनों से विद्युत् केन्द्रों को निम्न प्रकार से कोयले की सप्लाई बनाए रखने के लिए सतत प्रयत्न किये जा रहे हैं:—

(1) विद्युत् केन्द्रों को कोयले के मासिक आवंटन के पुनर्विलोकन के लिए खान विभाग में एक स्थायी सम्पर्क समिति गठित की गई है ।

(2) विभिन्न विद्युत् केन्द्रों पर कोयले की प्रतिदिन की सप्लाई और स्टाक के पुनर्विलोकन के रेल मंत्रालय में एक नियंत्रण कक्ष स्थापित किया गया है ।

(3) ताप विद्युत् केन्द्रों को कोयले के परिवहन के लिए वैगनों के लादने और आवंटन के पुनर्विलोकन के लिए कलकत्ता में संयुक्त कक्ष स्थापित किया गया है ।

बिजली के कमी के कारण हरयाणा में उद्योगों का बन्द होना

199. श्री महादीपक सिंह शाक्य : क्या सिंचाई और विद्युत् मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या हरियाणा में विद्युत् संकट के कारण अनेक उद्योग बन्द हो गये हैं, जिसके परिणामस्वरूप एक लाख मजदूर बेरोजगार हो गये हैं; और

(ख) उक्त संकट को दूर करने के लिए सरकार ने क्या कार्यवाही की है ?

सिंचाई और विद्युत् मंत्रालय में उप-मंत्री (श्री सिद्धेश्वर प्रसाद) : (क) हरियाणा राज्य सरकार ने विद्युत् की बढ़ती हुई मांग की अपेक्षा कम विद्युत ऊर्जा उपलब्ध होने के कारण उद्योगों में बिजली के उपयोग पर पाबंदियां लगा दी हैं । जबकि कुछ आवश्यक उद्योगों को विद्युत् की कटौती से छूट दे दी गई है, अन्य उद्योगों पर विद्युत् खपत में 60 प्रतिशत तक पाबंदी लगाई गई है । विद्युत् में कटौती के कारण कर्मचारियों की कोई छंटनी नहीं की गई है ।

(ख) केन्द्रीय सरकार ने बदरपुर ताप विद्युत् केन्द्र, राजस्थान परमाणु विद्युत् परियोजना और भाखड़ा-दिल्ली प्रणाली के सरकार की यथासंभव बिजली सप्लाई करके राहत की व्यवस्था कर दी है ।

Scheme for Modernisation of Sindri Unit of F.C.I.

190. SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have approved the scheme for the modernisation of the Sindri Unit of F.C.I.; and

(b) if so, the main features of the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The scheme envisages production of an additional 1,28,500 tonnes of nitrogen per annum and is expected to

cost Rs. 89 crores (nearly). The scheme will use fuel oil/heavy petroleum fractions as the feedstock in lieu of coke/coke oven gas presently in use as feedstock at Sindri.

Indianisation of Foreign Firms

191. SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number and names of foreign firms the shares of which are exclusively owned by foreigners; and

(b) the steps proposed to be taken to Indianise these firms?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA): (a) There were 93 Indian companies registered under the Companies Act which were wholly-owned by foreign holding companies as on 31st March 1971. In addition there were 541 branches of foreign companies as defined under Section 591 of the Companies Act at work in India as on 31st March, 1972. The names of these companies are given in statements I and II laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-6155/74].

(b) The policy regarding Indianization of foreign companies has been spelt out in the guidelines for the administration of Section 29 of Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1973 issued by the Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance.

Reduction in Power Generation by Bhakra Management Board

192. SHRI BUTA SINGH: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bhakra Management Board has decided to reduce power generation; and

(b) if so, to what extent the reduction will be affected in the various States receiving power from this system?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

रूस की सहायता से तेल के उत्पादन में वृद्धि

193. श्री शिव कुमार शास्त्री : क्या पेट्रोलियम और रसायन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सोवियत संघ की सहायता से देश के विद्यमान तेल के कुओं से तेल का उत्पादन बढ़ा है अथवा उसे बढ़ाने का कोई प्रयास किया गया है;

(ख) यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं;

(ग) देश में तेल के नये संसाधनों का पता लगाने में अब तक कितनी प्रगति हुई है; और

(घ) तेल के इन संसाधनों का पता लगाने में अब तक कुल कितना व्यय हुआ है ?

पेट्रोलियम और रसायन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री शाहनवाज खां) : (क) और (ख). सरकारी क्षेत्र में 1961-62 से देश में कच्चे तेल का उत्पादन 0.41

लाख मी० टन प्रतिवर्ष से क्रमश: बढ़कर 41.1 लाख मी० टन हो गया है। इस सम्बन्ध में रूस ने निर्यात तथा अपेक्षित अपकरणों की सप्लाई के रूप में सहायता की है। किसी कुएं से तेल उत्पादन सामान्य तथा इष्टतम दर पर किया जाता है। किसी वर्तमान कुएं से इष्टतम दर से तेल उत्पादन की दर में किसी प्रकार की वृद्धि सामान्यतया तकनीकी दृष्टि से सम्भव नहीं है।

(ग) तेल तथा प्राकृतिक गैस आयोग के अब तक कुल 25 तेल क्षेत्रों का पता लगाया है। अन्तिम अनुमानों के अनुसार उत्पादन आरम्भ होने से पूर्व इन क्षेत्रों में कुल उपलब्ध होने योग्य भण्डार 1086.6 लाख मी० टन था।

(घ) देश में पेट्रोलियम निक्षेपों का पता लगाने में तेल तथा प्राकृतिक गैस आयोग द्वारा अब तक लगभग 164 लाख रुपये व्यय किए गए हैं।

Setting up of a Committee to examine the Progress of Electrification in N.E. States and North Western States

194. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have constituted a Committee to examine the progress of electrification in the North-Eastern States of the country;

(b) if so, the composition of the Committee and the likely date by which it would submit its report;

(c) whether Government propose to constitute a similar Committee to examine the work of rural electrification for North-Western States of Himachal Pradesh, J. & K., Punjab and Harayana; and

(d) if so, the likely date by which this Committee would be set up?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) and (b). A Committee has been constituted in January, 1974 to review the progress of rural electrification in the Eastern States of Assam, Bihar, Manipur, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Orissa, Tripura and West Bengal and to make suggestions to improve the situation. The Committee consists of:—

Chairman

1. Prof. Siddeshwar Prasad, Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power.

Members

2. Shri L. D. Kotoki, M.P.

3. Shri Bhola Raut, M.P.

4. Shri Yashpal Kapoor, M.P.

Members Co-opted

5. Advisor/Director Power (alternate) Planning Commission.

.6 Technical Director Rural Electrification Corporation.

Secretary

7. Director (RE), Central Water and Power Commission.

The Committee is expected to submit its report within a period of six months.

(c) and (d). No, Sir.

Construction of Hassan-Mangalore Railway Line

195. SHRI NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the date when the construction of the Hassan-Mangalore Railway line was undertaken;

(b) the likely date by which the construction work would be completed; and

(c) the total cost involved?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) The Hassan-Mangalore Railway Project was sanctioned in November, 1964.

(b) By about December, 1976.

(c) Approximately Rs. 3587 lakhs.

Request for opening a Railway Out-Agency at Hamirpur in Himachal Pradesh

196. PROF NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received a request for opening a Railway Out-Agency at Hamirpur (District Headquarters) in Himachal Pradesh;

(b) if so, whether Government have examined the request; and

(c) the decision taken by Government in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD SHAFI QURESHI): (a) Yes

(b) and (c). The proposal for opening an Out-agency at Hamirpur has been examined and it has been found that the same is not justified financially due to poor prospects of traffic

Representation made for giving longer stoppage to Himachal Express at Kiratpur Railway Station

197. PROF NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a representation has been received by Government regarding the provision of a longer stoppage to Himachal Express and some other important facilities at the Kiratpur Railway Station on Northern Railway; and

(b) if so, the decision of Government thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) Yes.

(b) Increase in the duration of stoppage of 53/54 Himachal Express at Kiratpur Sahib Railway Station is neither justified on traffic considerations nor desirable in the interest of maintaining the fast character of these trains.

Assistance sought by Kerala for Electrification in Rural Areas

198 SHRIMATI BHARGAVI THANKAPPAN:

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI.

Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Kerala has approached Central Government for financial help to have the maximum electrification in the rural areas of the State; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Central Government thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) The programme of rural electrification is formulated and executed by the State Governments. The Rural Electrification Corporation which has been set up in the Central Sector provides additive finance to the State Electricity Boards or the implementation of their

rural electrification schemes. The Corporation since its inception has so far sanctioned 16 rural electrification schemes of Kerala State Electricity Board involving a loan assistance of Rs. 712.57 lakhs. These schemes envisage electrification of 451 villages, energisation of 8436 pumpsets and power supply to 1487 small scale and agro-industries. Five more schemes of Kerala State Electricity Board involving a loan assistance of Rs. 235.30 lakhs are at present under consideration of the Corporation. These schemes will be approved by the Corporation for financial assistance if found technically feasible and financially viable.

Demand for a separate Bench of Kerala High Court at Trivandrum

199. SHRIMATI BHARGAVI THANKAPPAN: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a demand for setting up of a separate Bench of Kerala High Court in Trivandrum has been outstanding for long;

(b) if so, action taken by Government in this regard; and

(c) the time by which the aforesaid bench will be set up?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H. R. GOKHALE): (a) to (c). Certain legal issues had to be considered in consultation with the Attorney General of India regarding the proposal. In the light of the advice given by the Attorney General, the matter has been referred back to the State Government for further consideration. The proposal will be considered further only after the State Government's views are received.

Cancellation of Passenger Trains running between Ernakulam and Trivandrum

200. SHRIMATI BHARGAVI THANKAPPAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some daily passenger trains running between Ernakulam and Trivandrum (Southern Railway) have been cancelled;

(b) whether Government are aware that this cancellation has resulted in great inconvenience to the public, especially the students; and

(c) if so, what steps have been taken or are proposed to be taken urgently in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) to (c). Out of seven pairs of trains on the Ernakulam-Quilon section and nine pairs of trains on Quilon-Trivandrum section, four pairs of trains on Ernakulam-Quilon section and three pairs of trains on Kuilon-Trivandrum section have been cancelled on account of the difficult coal position. To minimise the inconvenience to passengers Nos. 191/192 Ernakulam-Trivandrum Express and Nos. 745/746 Quilon-Trivandrum Passenger have been dieselised and their loads augmented by one first class and three third class coaches and two third class coaches respectively.

CORRECTION OF ANSWER TO UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 9612 DATED 8-5-1973 RE: MANAGING DIRECTORS AND WHOLE TIME DIRECTORS OF COMPANIES ALLOWED, MONTHLY REMUNERATION OF RS. 4,000/- AND ABOVE

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA): For the figure "478" occurring in line 2 of the answer

to part (a) of Unstarred Question No. 9612 by Shri R. K. Sinha answered in Lok Sabha on 8th May, 1973 by late Shri D. R. Chavan read "600".

While compiling information for fulfilling the assurance given in respect of part (b) of the question from hundreds of applications requiring approval of Government in regard to the appointment of Managing and Whole-time Directors received from companies in the Department, and from the reports received from Regional Officers, it came to light that names of several applicants escaped attention, in computing the number of such applicants for answering part (a) of the question. This was because all the relevant particulars were not maintained in a manner so as to make it possible to furnish the required information immediately. Including these additional names the number of the Managing allowed a monthly basic remuneration of Rs. 4,000/- and above during the period from 1st January, 1970 to 31st December, 1972 comes to "600".

2. Arrangements to maintain the statistics adequately for answering such question, have been made.

12.03 hrs.

ANNOUNCEMENT *RE* PANEL OF CHAIRMEN

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, before I take up the Calling-attention notice, I have to inform the House that under rule 9 of the Rules of Procedure, I have nominated the following persons as Members of the Panel of Chairmen:—

1. Shri Vasant Sathe,
2. Dr. Henry Austin,
3. Shri Dinesh Chandra Goswami,
4. Shri Naval Kishore Sinha,
5. Maulana Ishaque Sambhali, and
6. Shri Jagannathrao Joshi,

The list has been completely changed because the others had finished almost half the term.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Raipur): All those who are vociferous in the House will be in the Chair here after.

SHRI S. A. SHAMIM (Srinagar): That is the best way to silence them.

MR. SPEAKER: That is only method of taming them.

SHRI S. A. SHAMIM: I was looking forward to my name also being there.

12.05 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

REPORTED COAL SHORTAGE HITTING STEEL PLANTS

श्री यमुना प्रसाद मंडल (समस्तीपुर) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं अविलम्बनीय लोक महत्व के निम्नलिखित विषय की ओर इस्पात और खान मंत्री का ध्यान दिलाता हूं और प्रार्थना करता हूं कि वह इस के ऊपर एक वक्तव्य दें :

"गैर-सरकारी तथा सरकारी दोनो क्षेत्रों के इस्पात कारखानों पर कोयले की कमी के प्रतिकूल प्रस्ताव के समाचार तथा सरकार द्वारा किए गए उपाय ।"

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA): The programme of steel production during the current financial year requires an availability of 36,600 tonnes of coking coal daily in all the steel plants taken together. To get this quantity of coal at the steel plants about 2700 wagons of raw coal and washed coal have to be loaded daily from the Bengal-Bihar coalfields. Unfortunately coal movement during the year did not keep pace with the requirements and on two occasions, in August, 1973 and November, 1973 sudden dislocation of railway services brought down coal stocks at steel plants to dangerously low levels During December, 1973 the coal supplies to steel plants received a serious setback and as a result coal consumption at the steel plants had to be reduced. With the limited arrivals of coal at the steel plants, the first concern was to ensure the safety of the installations

and accordingly the pushing of ovens were cut down so as to conserve the actual coal supplies in hand although this resulted in reduced production of steel and pig iron.

For the month of January, 1974, the Coal Controller drew up as usual a programme for supply of raw coal to washeries as well as washed and raw coal to steel plants in consultation with the representatives of the mining organisations, steel plants and the railways. This ivolved the supply of 11.71 lakh tonnes of coking coal to the steel plants, which would have required a daily average loading of 2700 wagons. However, it was possible to maintain a daily average loading of 1933 wagons only during the month as against 2700 wagons. As a result the stock of coal held in different steel plants were depleted from about 1,47,000 tonnes on 1st January, 1974 to 1,15,000 tonnes as on 1st February, 1974. This happened not-withstanding the pushing of a reduced number of coke ovens in the steel plants even at the cost of loss of production of steel and pig iron.

Towards the end of January, agitations in the Hatia-Bondamunda line resulted in the hold-up of a number of loaded coal rakes moving towards Rourkela and Bhilai. This in turn affected the availability of empty wagons for loading at the collieries and washeries which resulted in a further loss of coal supplies in the other steel plants. At the beginning of February, a section of the Train Examining staff in South Eastern Railway unfortunately began a work-to-rule agitation which resulted in the immobilisation of an unusually large number of wagons. Some Assistant Station Masters in the Adra Division also did not report for work. As a result, coal movement to the steel plants rapidly deteriorated and there was no alternative to reducing coal consumption at the coke ovens of the steel plants to a minimum level consistent with safety of the installations. The prime concern during these days has been the maintenance of a minimum heat in the coke ovens and blast furnaces since rapid cooling of these installations may result in severe damage and loss of normous magnitude in the share of ultimate cost of repairs and replacements. Production of steel and pig iron has naturally suffered a set-back. However, with these conservation measures the stocks in the steel plants have marginally improved so that, on the 18th February Bhilai held a little over 6 days requirement, Rourkela a little over 3 days requirement, TISCO about 6 days requirement, IISCO about 2 days requirement, Durgapur about 4 days requirement and Bokaro at the current level of operation, about 10 days requirement.

The dislocation of railway movement has also resulted in the building up of large stocks of finished steel at all the steel plants. On 1st February, 1974 there was an accumulation of 3,61,000 tonnes of finished steel and pig iron at all the steel plants which should normally be about 1,50,000 tonnes as against which about 3,60,000 tonnes have accumulated.

The country is passing through a difficult period. The economy is under severe strain from more than one direction. A crisis whether in the collieries or in the railway system or in the steel plants has a snow-ball effect on the national economy. At this juncture let us not find fault with any particular section, but work together harmoniously in the interest of higher production and higher efficiency throughout all aspects of national life, whether it be in coal mines or the railways or the steel plants.

श्री यमुना प्रसाद मंडल : विद्वान मंत्री महोदय ने बड़ ही स्पष्ट और सच्चे शब्दों में जो वस्तु स्थिति है उसका वर्णन किया है। इनके वक्तव्य में कहीं से यह लिखा हुआ है कि डेंजरसली ली लेवल, कहीं लिखा हुआ है सीरियस सेट बैक और कहीं कुछ और इस तरह के अलफाज का इन्होंने अपने वक्तव्य में व्यवहार किया है। आखिरी जो पांचवां पैरा है उस में उन्होंने लिखा हैं

[श्री यमुना प्रसाद मंडल]

. "Accrisis whether in the collieries or in the railway system or in the steel plants has a global effect on the national economy. At this stage let us not find fault with any particular section...."

इस महान देश की इच्छा जो महान संस्थायें हैं उनको आगे बढ़ाने की रही है ताकि, देश की आर्थिक उन्नति हो सके और उस में ये सहायक सिद्ध हो सकें। इस प्रकार जो सपना हम देखते हैं वह अभी चल ही रहा है और उसको हमको पूरा करना है। उसको हम किसी भी तरह से नजरअंदाज नहीं कर सकते हैं। अगर उस तरफ हमारा ध्यान न रहे तो भी भयानक परिस्थिति पैदा हो सकती है। 8 और 12 फरवरी के बीच के हिन्दुस्तान के सारे अखबारों ने बड़े ही अच्छे ढंग से जो दुखदायी स्थिति है, जो शोकपूर्ण स्थिति है उसका वर्णन किया है। मैं समझता हूं कि विद्वान मंत्री महोदय ने जब चार्ज लिया उससे पहले से ही स्थिति बिगड़ रही थी। आपने सेल, एस ए आई एल, स्टील आथोरिटी आफ इंडिया लिमिटेड का निर्माण किया है और उसका सक्रेटरी श्री वदूद खां को बनाया है। वह एक अनुभवी आदमी हैं। टाटा में काम कर चुके है। उनके अनुभव और उनके गुणो की देख करके लगता है आपने उनको यहा लाया है। स्टील आर्गेनाइजेशन, माइनिंग आर्गेनाइजशन और रेलवेज की ओर अपने ध्यान खींचा है। मैं जानना चाहता हू कि क्या ये तीनों आपस मे बैठ करके इस भयानक स्थिति का मुकाबला नही कर सकती हैं? चार सौ ट्रेन एग्जेमिनर्ज कहते आ रहे हैं दस बरस से कि हमारी स्थिति पर नजर डाली, कितनी डिसपैरिटी है हमारी पे में। दस साल तक आपने कुछ नही किया। वे कहते आ रहे हैं लेकिन आपने नही सुना। अब उनके साथ एक सौ असिस्टैंट स्टेशन मास्टर भी हो गए हैं। उनकी स्थिति में तो आप सुधार कर ही सकते थे। जब आप इतनी बड़ी बड़ी संस्थाओं को चलाना चाहते हैं तो आपको यह भी देखना चाहिये कि ऐसा कोई काम नही जिससे सारे देश की इकोनोमी को धक्का लगे और इसके आपको उपाय तो करने ही चाहियें। आज 2500 इंजीनियरिंग युनिट्स मध्य प्रदेश में, महाराष्ट्र में तथा दूसरी जगहों पर बहुत बुरी स्थिति में हैं। ऐसी हालत में मैं समझता हूं कि इन तीनों संस्थानों को आपस में बैठ करके इसका हल निकालना चाहिये। मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि इन तीनों की क्या कोई कोआर्डिनेशन कमेटी की स्थापना आप करेंगे? अगर आप सब चीजों को ब्युरोक्रेट्स पर छोड़ देते हैं तो बंगलिंग होगा और ऐसा होगा कि जिसका कोई ठिकाना नहीं है। देश को ये कहां ले जायेंगे इसका कुछ पता नही है। जो दुखद स्थिति आई है इसमें यह कह देना कि हम किसी की तरफ उंगली न उठाये—जो कि हम उठाना नही चाहते हैं इससे काम नहीं चल सकता है। जो छोटी मोटी भूलें हैं वे चाहे एच एम एस के लोग करते हों, मजदूर संगठनों के लोग करते हो, आई एन टी यू सी की आपस की राइवेलरी हो, इन सब के भीतर भी आपको जाना पड़ेगा।

मै आपकी आज्ञा से केवल एक स्टील प्लांट के बारे में राउरकेला के बारे में ही कुछ निवेदना करना चाहत हू, वहां की स्थिति आपके सामने रखना चाहता हू। वहां की स्थिति धीरे धीरे बड़े खतरनाक बिन्दु की ओर जा रही है। वहां के लोगो ने सरकार को भी इसके बारे मे लिखा है। मुझे मेरे एक मित्र का पत्र राउरकेला से आता है। उसमें उन्होंने बताया है कि उन लोगों ने लिखा है.

"Production in Rourkela steel plant was affected by shortage of coal."

मंत्री महोदय ने अपने वक्तव्य में कहीं पावर की बात नहीं कही है। लेकिन पावर और

एडवर्स इंडस्ट्रियल रिलेशंज ये दो फैक्टरी जो हैं हम समझते हैं कि ये स्थिति को डेंजरस सिचुएशन की ओर ले जाने में काफी दूर तक जिम्मेवार हैं। वर्तमान मंत्री पहले भी मंत्री रह चुके हैं। वह विद्वान भी हैं। वह बहुत दूर तक इन सब चीजों को जानते भी हैं। मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि वह इस सब के बारे में क्या करने जा रहे हैं।

अब आप राउरकेला को लें। वहां पर हाट मैटल दिसम्बर 1973 तक टारगेट 1,05,000 टंज का था लेकिन 15 दिसम्बर तक केवल 45,671 टन का उत्पादन हुआ। इसी प्रकार से इंगट्स स्टील का टारगेट 1,03,800 टन का था और 15 दिसम्बर तक 37,981 टन का उत्पादन ही हो सका। इलैक्ट्रिक टिन प्लेट्स के उत्पादन का लक्ष्य दिसम्बर तक 4500 टन का था जबकि 15 दिसम्बर तक 1388 टन का उत्पादन हो ही सका। हाट रोल्ड कायल का टारगेट इसी तरह से 63,400 टन का था और 15 दिसम्बर तक 20,297 टन का उत्पादन ही हो सका। सिंटर आयरन का 75,000 टन का था और उत्पादन केवल 27,733 टन का ही हुआ। यह दुखद स्थिति केवल एक स्टील प्लांट की ही है। इसी तरह की स्थिति और जगहों पर भी है। इस स्थिति का प्रतिकूल प्रभाव हजारों इंजीनियरिंग युनिट तथा दूसरे युनिटस् पर पड़ेगा। पावर की ओर आपने एक दम इशारा नहीं किया है। इंडस्ट्रियल रिलेशंज की ओर भी नहीं किया है। सेल किस ढंग से काम कर रहा है, इसका भी कुछ पता नहीं है। उसके बारे में भी आप जानकारी दें।

श्री के० डी० मालवीय : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं माननीय सदस्य को इत्मीनान दिलाना चाहता हूं कि उत्पादन बढ़ाने और कोयले को स्टील मिलों तक पहुंचाने से जिन जिन संस्थाओं का संबंध है, उन सबके बीच में बहुत सक्रिय तरीके से, संजीदगी के साथ, आपस में बातचीत हो रही है और कहीं भी किसी प्रकार के असहयोग की भावना नहीं है। लेकिन जिन दिक्कतों की तरफ मैंने इशारा किया है, वे हमारे प्रजातांत्रिक समाजवाद की पद्धति में निहित हैं और हमारा यह फर्ज है कि हम धीरज के साथ, लेकिन व्यग्रता और उग्रता के साथ भी, उन तमाम मसलों को हल करने का प्रयत्न बहुत तेजी से करें। मैं सदन को यह आश्वासन दिलाना चाहता हूं कि स्थिति में सुधार होने में ज्यादा समय नहीं लगेगा। स्थिति में सुधार जरूर होगा, इसमें मुझे कोई भी संदेह नहीं है।

लेकिन मैं इस मौके का इस्तेमाल सब वर्गों से अपील करने के लिए करना चाहता हूं कि जब हमारी तरफ से कोई कोशिश बाकी नहीं रहेगी, तो जितने भी काम करने वाले हैं, उनके जो नेता हैं— मैं किसी की तरफ विशेष रूप से कोई इशारा नहीं करना चाहता हूं—उन सब को भी इस संबंध में पूरा सहयोग देना चाहिये। सब लोगों के दिमाग में यह बात है कि काम करने वालों की तरक्की हो, उनके रहन सहन और जीवन स्तर की तरक्की हो उनके जीवन स्तर में, उनके रहन सहन और उनकी माली हालत में तरक्की करने का फर्ज सरकार का है। अगर वह नहीं हो पायगा, तो मुझे इसमें भी कोई सन्देह नहीं है कि हमारे नस्बुल-एन, हमारे मन्तव्य और हमारे टारगेटस के पूरा होने में दिक्कत पड़ेगी। सरकार की कोशिश होगी कि वह अपनी तमाम शक्ति के साथ अपनी रेसपांसीबिलिटीज को निभाये और मुझे आशा है कि हम सब मिल जुलकर इस विकट समस्या को सुलझायेंगे।

श्री राम सहाय पान्डे (राजनंदगाव) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मंत्री महोदय ने जो वक्तव्य सदन में दिया है, वह बड़ा विशद और बड़ा स्पष्ट है। उन्होंने अपनी कुछ कठिनाइयां बताई हैं, जिनके प्रति हमारी हमदर्दी होना स्वाभाविक है। उन्होंने यह पोर्टफोलियो अभी कुछ दिन पहले ही संभाला है और शायद अभी उन्हें बैठ कर अपना

[श्री राम सहाय पाण्डे]

बात करने का अवसर भी नहीं मिल पाता है। प्रपने वक्तव्य के अन्त में मंत्री महोदय ने कहा है :

"At this juncture let us not find fault with any particular section, but work together harmoniously in the interest of higher production and higher efficiency throughout all aspects of national life,......"

मंत्री महोदय की इस इच्छा के प्रति मैं साधुवाद प्रकट कर सकता हूं, लेकिन मैं समझता हूं कि यही अंक्चर है, जब कि फाल्ट फाइंड करनी चाहिये और यह देखना चाहिये कि हमारे पैरों के नीचे कितना पानी बह रहा है। एक तो वेगन्ज मिलते नहीं हैं, और जो मिलते हैं, व अनलोडिड खड़े हैं। पिटहैड्स पर कोयला पड़ा हुआ है। हम रोज अखबारों में पढ़ते हैं कि स्टील प्लांटस के पास एक, दो या चार रोज का कोयला रह गया है।

संसार में 1972 में स्टील का प्राडक्शन 696 मिलियन टन हुआ और उसकी तुलना में 1973 में 16 5 मिलियन टन ज्यादा हुआ। यू० एस० ए० में 196 मिलियन टन, यू० एस० एस० आर० मे 131 मिलियन टन, ईस्ट्रन जर्मनी में 36 मिलियन टन और जापान में 100 मिलियन टन, से ज्यादा स्टील का प्रोडक्शन होता है। जब हमारे देश में ये स्टील प्लांट लगाये गये थे, तो पंडित जी ने उन्हें टेम्पल, मन्दिर, की संज्ञा दी थी। लेकिन आज उनकी स्थिति बीमार बच्चे की सी है, और उस बीमार बच्चे को श्री मालवीय की गोद में बिठा दिया गया है। भगवान जाने उनका और उस बीमार बच्चे का क्या होगा ? श्री मालवीय की सिनसेरिटी, डायनामिज्म और अनुभव से हम आश्वस्त होते हैं। श्री मालवीय वही हैं, जिन्होंने भारत को संसार के मानचित्र पर तेल की दृष्टि से एक छोटे से डाट का रूप दिया था। पहले हमारे यहां आयल नहीं था, लेकिन हम को तेल मिला, यह श्रेय उन्हीं को है।

स्टील प्लांटस के लिए प्रति दिन 36,600 टन कोयले की आवश्यकता है। मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि क्या यह आवश्यकता पूरी हो रही है या नहीं, अगर नहीं, तो वह कब तक पूरी होगी। क्या सरकार कोई बफरस्टाक बनाने का प्रयास कर रही है ? क्या रेलवेज, कोल माइनिंग एथारटी और स्टील मिनिस्ट्री में कोई ताल मेल या सतैक्य है ? क्या कोई एक्शन लेने से पहले आपस में विचार विमर्श किया जाता है।

स्टील प्लांटस के लिए चार तरह का कोयला चाहिए—कोकिंग कोल, स्लैक कोल, और साफ्ट कोक। मैं यह जानना चाहता हू कि इन चारों किस्मों के कोयले के प्रोडक्शन की क्या स्थिति है। दो तरह से स्टील प्रोडयूस होता है—एक तो ओवन को गर्म करके और दूसरे, डायरेक्ट प्रोडयूस किया जाता है।

मंत्री महोदय बतायें कि नैशनलाइजेशन से पहले पिटहैडज पर कितना स्टाक था और इस समय कितना स्टाक है। नार्मली कितने स्टाक की आवश्यकता है ? कितने पिटहैडज पर रेलवे साइडिंग है और कितनों पर नहीं है। जिन पिटहैडज पर रेलवे साइडिंग नहीं है, क्या विकक ट्रांसपोर्टेशन की दृष्टि से वहां रेलवे साइडिंग बनाने के लिये पंचवर्षीय योजना में कोई व्यवस्था की गई है ; अगर नहीं, तो क्यों नहीं ? क्या इस बारे में रेलवे मंत्रालय से बातचीत की गई है ?

कितनी वाशरीज काम करती हैं ? कितना कोयला माइन्ज से वाशरीज को जाता है, कितना वाशरीज से प्लांट्स को जाता है और कितना माइन्ज से डायरेक्ट प्लांट्स को जाता है ? इस सब के लिए कितने वैगन्ज की जरूरत

है ? मंत्री महोदय ने कहा है कि वैगन्ज कम हैं । श्री कुरैशी ने कलकत्ता में एक स्टेटमेंट में कहा है कि 3,60,000 वैगन्ज हमारी डिस-पोजल पर हैं और पंचवर्षीय योजना में और एक लाख वैगन्ज का निर्माण होगा। क्या रेलवे मंत्रालय और स्टील मंत्रालय के बीच में आवश्यक ताल-मेल और सहयोग स्थापित किया गया है ? जैसा कि मैंने अभी कहा है, पहले इन स्टील मिल्ज को टैम्पल्ज की संज्ञा दी गई थी, लेकिन आज उन की स्थिति बीमार बच्चे की सी है । आज वे सिक मिल्ज कही जाती हैं । आज हम बड़ी मजबूरी से कहते हैं कि कोयला नही मिलता है, स्टेशन मास्टरों की स्ट्राइक है, आदि ।

मंत्री महोदय ने कहा है कि यह अवसर किसी की फ़ाल्ट फ़ाइंड करने का नहीं है । उन की यह भावना स्वागत-योग्य है, लेकिन हमें तब तक सफलता नहीं मिल सकती है, जब तक कि सब मंत्रालयों का आपस में सहयोग और ताल-मेल न हो ।

श्री के० डी० मालवीय : अध्यक्ष महोदय, माननीय सदस्य ने कई प्रश्न पूछे है । मै माननीय सदस्य के प्रति अपनी कृतज्ञता प्रकट करता हूं कि उन्होंने बड़ी हमदर्दी के साथ इस प्रश्न को उठाया है । इस में कोई शक नही है कि सभी मिनिस्ट्रीज में, चाहे वह कोयले की हों, लोहे की हों या रेलवे की हो, काम जैसे होना चाहिए था, वैसे नहीं हो सका है । उस के न होने के कारण बहुत से सामाजिक हैं, बहुत से कुछ विरोधी दलों और हमारे बीच में मतभेद सहकार न हो सकने की वजह से हैं । वह चाहे उन के गैर-मुनासिब कार्यों की वजह से हो या हमारे कम समझने की वजह से हो, उसे ठीक करना है । जब तक हमारी और आप की यह मान-कोआपरेशन की स्पिरिट ठीक नहीं हो पाएगी और कुछ विरोधी पार्टियों में काफी समझ नहीं आ जायगी उन तमाम सीरियस सिचु-एशंस की तब तक संभवतः हम अपने उत्पादन को तेजी से आगे नहीं बढ़ा पाएगे ।

दुनिया में भी तुलनात्मक दृष्टि से लोहे का उत्पादन हमारे देश में बहुत कम है और इस की चिन्ता हमारे सदन को है, इस की हमें बड़ी खुशी है और इस से हमें भरोसा होता है कि हम लोहे का उत्पादन अपने देश में तुलनात्मक दृष्टि से तेज कर सकेंगे उसे बढ़ा सकेंगे ।

कोयले का बफर स्टाक हमारे यहां उतना नहीं है जितना होना चाहिए । लेकिन उस का कारण यह है कि अगर हम कोयले की खदानों में बफर स्टाक ज्यादा जो कर सकते हैं वह जगह जगह करें और वह काफी तेजी से वहां से न जा सके तो अपने बोझ के कारण ही उन कोयलों में अक्सर आग लग जाया करती है । इसलिए हम एक सीमा के ऊपर कोयले का उत्पादन नहीं करते जिस से कि हमारा बफर स्टाक खतरे में न पड़ जाय ।

अक्सर रेल की कम निकासी की वजह से हमारे बफर स्टाक बढ़ जाते हैं या हम कोयला सप्लाई नहीं कर पाते, उस में जैसा मैं ने कहा कि हम सब का आपस में कोआपरेशन बढ़ रहा है और मैं यह भी यकीन दिलाना

[श्री के० डी० मालवीय]

चाहता हू कि कुछ तो आपस की समझ हमारी बहुत तेजी से बढ़ रही है क्योंकि खतरा बढ रहा है और कुछ अपनी वास्तविक उमर का फायदा उठा कर मैं अपने सहयोगियों को कुछ समझा बुझा भी पाउगा, ऐसी मुझे आशा है। इसलिए वह तमाम दिक्कते, मुझे आशा है, मैं हल करने में कुछ ज्यादा सफल हो सकगा।

एक बात और कहना चाहता हूं कि राष्ट्रीयकरण के बाद जो सारी स्थिति उत्पन्न हो गई है उस में जो सुधार होने वाला है उस की प्रसव पीड़ा को आप को अच्छी तरह से अनुभव कर लेना चाहिए। वह प्रसव पीड़ा शीघ्र ही कम नही हो जायगी। कुछ तो ऐसी दिक्कतें हैं कि जिनकी परिपाटियां बहुत पुरानी हो गई है जिन में भ्रष्टाचार बहुत ज्यादा घुस गया था, जिन मे पुरानों को निकाल कर नयों को रखने मे हमें दिक्कते पड रही हैं और उन को सुधारने मे हमें कुछ देर लग रही है। मैं उम्मीद करता हू कि वह तमाम दिक्कते हम आप के सहयोग के साथ और विशेषत· कुछ विरोधी पार्टियों के नेताओं के सहयोग के साथ तय कर लेंगे और इसी बजट सेशन के अंत में या बीच में हम कुछ सुधार की सूचना आप को दे सकेंगे।

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: (Diamond Harbour)· The situation is very grave. If I quote from one of the leading national dailies, it says·

"The country's steel industry is grinding to a halt for lack of raw materials. The Tata Steel Plant has been shut down to 20 per cent of its capacity. One of the three blast furnaces of the Durgapur Steel Plant was closed down yesterday for lack of ore. PTI reported late in the night that one of the blast furnaces of the Bhilai Steel Plant was closed today due to coke shortage. With only 10,000 tonnes of coke in stock, the plant can work only for the next 1½ days."

The hon. Minister, it seems to us, has been trying to make a mountain out of a mole-hill by drum-beating their performance. But he has not said why the steel plants have not held sufficient reserve stock which is essential because steel production is a vital thing for the country's economic growth.

Here it is also said:

"Power cut and coal shortage in the first three months of the current financial year have resulted in a loss of about Rs. 2 80 crores of saleable steel, of pig iron, in Bokaro and Bhilai Steel Plants. A preliminary survey has, however, estimated the loss of production during the period in all the steel plants around 2,93,000 tonnes of saleable steel."

The prospect of return to normalcy, it seems to us, is very bleak, and it is due to mainly lack of supply of coal and iron ore

What was the performance when this situation was not there? The percentage of the rated capacity for Rourkela Steel is only 57.6. Durgapur Steel—39.6 per cent, etc. Then the private sector is, of course, much higher. That was for the year 1971-72, 1972-73—for Durgapur steel plant—45 1 per cent., Indian Iron which has been taken over—43.1 per cent.

Regarding the performance of the railways, the hon. Minister, I really do not think, could get away by

putting the blame on the railways because you are a collective body and they should be collectively responsible to this House.

The railways' performance has been the worst possible. 30 per cent of the existing stock of 3,88,200 wagons are lying idle. 60 per cent old backlog of wagon over-all is pending. Look at the details of the percentage of wagons awaiting repairs to the total—1965-66—3.99—broad-gauge and 3.31 metre-gauge. In 1970-71 it was 5.11 for broad gauge and 4.46 for metre-gauge. That is how they have consolidated the *Garibi Hatao*. This is how they are taking the country to dogs.

Utilisation of wagon capacity is another dismal performance. For broad-gauge for 1950-51 the speed of the goods train was 17.4 and it has come down to 16.4 in 1965-66. And after spending billions of rupees on dieselisation and electrification the speed has gone up only to 18.2......

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN (Badagara): How is Mr. Malaviya responsible for that?

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: It is a collective responsibility. Mr. Unnikrishnan, please do not get blisters so soon.

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN: I was about to say that you were very reasonable today.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Efficiency of wagons—wagon kilometre for wagon day, it was 74.5 per cent in 1965-66 and it has come down to 71.72 in 1974. The average wagon load tonne—it was Rs. 18.5 in 1961 and in 1971-72 it has gone down substantially.

According to the Reserve Bank's survey, the utilisation of wagons in this country is not more than 37 per cent. But the worst thing which comes under the portfolio of this Minister—Mr. Unnikrishnan may please note—is that there is a very damaging article which came out in a Calcutta daily—*Jugantar* which says:

"The coal mine area is plagued with anti-socials belonging to the ruling Party and in the name of unemployed youth, permits have been granted for a value and they are handing over these permits to those anti-social for some money."

That is what is happening. I am told that in the Calcutta office of CMA unless you give a certain amount for each tonne of delivery permit you cannot get a delivery order.

There is also an article in the *Times of India*, which says:

"The situation has been further aggravated by the wagons scandal. Although the railways allot wagons on the recommendation of the State Governments and the Union Territories from coal pitheads, it is known that unscrupulous traders manage to get railway wagons allotted to them from unknown intermediate railway stations. But the most serious thing today is: to get a rake of coal wagons from Raniganj or Jharia coal fields (a rake means 60 wagons), one has to pay a bribe of Rs. 60,000."

I am sorry to say that a person who is a Minister is accepting Rs. 1,20,000 a day for allotting two rakes every day and that is the Railway Minister.

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN: No, no.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: The Railway Minister is allotting two rakes of coal wagons from the coal fields. He should be here to give an explanation. I am told that money is being collected to the tune of Rs. one

[Shri Jyotirmoy Bosu]

lakh and twenty thousands a day. So, the problem cannot be solved.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Jyotirmoy Bosu, you very well know that the Rules of the House say that if you want to level charge against any Minister or Member, you should give prior notice....

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: I am not mentioning names.

MR SPEAKER: Even for a Minister, there is another procedure. If you mention that, you have to follow that procedure please.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: I have not mentioned names.

MR. SPEAKER: Don't be clever If you want that, you have to give advance notice, so that the other man may be present.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Where have I mentioned the name? (*Interruptions*).

MR. SPEAKER: You raised some charge against the Minister. If you want reply, you have to give advance notice, so that he may be present in the House to answer. Order please. Shri Malaviya

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: Sir, I do recognise that no specific name has been mentioned. But I must consider it my duty to say this. Any personal insinuation or general insinuation made against any high dignitary whether he be Minister or a high officer of the nature which has been made by Mr. Jyotirmoy Bosu will be refuted, must be refuted, by me.

Sir. I am however conscious of the fact that all is not well so far as the efficiency and perfect functioning of the Railways or of the Steel Ministry or of the Coalmines are concerned, I have already stated about this in the House. (*Interruptions*) Mr. Speaker, I want his attention. I hope Mr. Jyotirmoy Bosu is justifying to listen to what I am saying. I have never said....

MR. SPEAKER: He is more concerned with finding out the procedure for the Minister then the reply you are giving.

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA. Sir, he referred to certain anti-social elements, functioning in the coalmines or elsewhere or nearabout.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Belonging to your party.

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: I am conscious of certain anti-social elements doing something, doing certain acts there, which are not only anti-social but they are anti-national. And soon, it will be the duty of the Government to see that those anti-social elements are removed lock, stock and barrel from the areas so that we may be able to improve the performance of the mines. I am not referring to anything special or anything specific relating to any political group or any political party. But, Sir. hon. Members are already aware to whom I am referring to.

So far as the various details which were given by my hon. friend are concerned, some of them are obviously correct; some of them are not correct .

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Which one is not correct?

MR. SPEAKER: Have patience.

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: I have stated, Mr. Speaker, that enough buffer stocks are not accumulating either at the steel mills or at the coalmines, due to the activities of certain anti-social elements, whose cooperation I am still seeking, and I shall continue to second I hope my hon.

friend opposite, Mr. Jyotirmoy Bosu, will offer his cooperation to me, so that we may be able to increase the production of steel and coal. I do not wish to say anything more about it, at this stage. I will be coming at a later stage after I have made more specific study of the various points where I have to catch those defects.

But, in the end, I must remind him of certain things which are in common between ourselves,-between ourselves sitting here and members of the opposition, members of the opposite party sitting before me,—and this is, we have certain common interests. We have to keep those common interests in view. And, if we look to those common interests we cannot ignore the fact that there are a large number of post-nationalisation problems which have to be solved and those problems shall be solved even if they are not cooperating, even if we are not finding enough cooperation from certain anti-social elements, because without solving those problems the increase in the production of coal, the increase in the production of steel, will not be possible.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Sir, I rise on a point of order. The hon. Minister just now said that certain things stated by me are not obviously accurate. May I very humbly ask him to point out to me which are the things that are accurate and which are the things that are not accurate?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Bosu, you are so good outside.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: If I quote rule 353, the House will know what the actual position is.

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not quote from the book. I know it better.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: I bow to your request.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Chandrappan.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: (Tellicherry): This is a very peculiar situation in which we are placed in the context of coal shortage. The Government says that the production of coal has increased from 74.81 million tonnes in 1972 to 77.17 million tonnes in the year 1973. So, there was no shortage of coal as far as its production was concerned. The Railway claims that it is efficiently handling the transportation and so they say that they are not responsible for this. But, the coal mining authority says that there is increased production of coal and about 6 million tonnes of coal is lying at the pithead which should have been transported. But the fact remains that the steel mills and the railways still suffer because of the shortage of coal.

In this situation, I think that the matter should be examined more seriously than it was done so far as mentioned by the Minister. I want to know whether the Minister finds only anti-social elements as responsible for this situation. I think the responsibility should be fixed on the people who are in higher-ups who are the bureaucrats and who are running the Railway Board and who are responsible for various authorities and organisations set up by the Government. This is a conspiracy between the monopoly house, the private sector and the top bureaucrats who are running the administration sitting just near the Minister. And this conspiracy is just to malign the public sector and to discredit it and to glorify the private sector. The conspiracy is also to malign the working class and also to escape the responsibility. This is what is happening actually if you examine this a little more carefully. I would like to cite one or two examples in this context.

MR. SPEAKER: Please ask your questions.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: I am asking the question. TISCO has been closed down because of coal shortage. Is it not a fact? It is the captive mines owned by TISCO which are responsible to supply coal to the extent of fiftyone per cent. This Steel Mill. Is it, therefore, not a fact that they did not exploit the non-nationalised captive mines for the last several months? They did not bring in coal which they should have brought for the working of the TISCO Steel Mills? They have blamed the Government precisely, the reason is this. They wanted to hide the fact that it is they who were responsible for bringing in 51 per cent of the total coal requirements of that Company. It is not the nationalised coal mines and railways which are fully responsible for this coal shortage as far as TISCO was concerned. They were not supposed to bring in the total coal requirements of that company as they have their own captive mines.

In the meantime one of the top officials went there to settle the matter. At Patna he made a public statement. It has been alleged that he had stated that the opening of Bokaro without finding sufficient coal was responsible for the crisis in TISCO. Is that officer not indirectly telling the people that the public sector undertaking, and one of the creditably run public sector undertakings like Bokaro should be closed down in the interests of the Tatas and the TISCO? It is a fact. The hon. Minister should examine that.

The hon. Minister has already said that there are blackmarketeers, and there is large-scale pilferage. There is smuggling and all these are happening in the coal mines. Coal is produced but it is sold in the black market and it has been stolen from mines. There are cases in Asansol and Dhanbad and his own officials have ...

MR. SPEAKER: Let him please confine himself to the question. Only one question is to be allowed. I am still allowing the others also.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: I would like to know whether Government will look into the matter of how far the bureaucrats who are in the Railway Board and who are in the SAIL and who are in the Coal Mines Authority are responsible for creating this kind of coal shortage and how far they are responsible for discrediting the public sector undertaking and supporting the private sector undertakings in our country.

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: I shall be very brief in my answer. First of all, I have never said a word or any sentence or expressed and sentiment whereby I have maligned the workers who are now busy producing coal, except that I was referring to some antisocial elements .

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN. He has not maligned, but his officials have maligned.

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: I was referring to certain anti-social elements trying to create problems there for the workers as well as those who are responsible for increasing the production. I know that it is the workers who are producing the coal and if the workers are not given proper conditions I have no justification for asking them to increase the production.

The hon. Member had asked me only one pertinent question, namely whether the senior bureaucrats of the railways. or the Coal authority or the Mining Department are responsible, either in collusion with certain other elements or without collusion, for creating problems which are ultimately resulting in less production. I categorically say 'No'. The only thing is that we might be lacking in the experiences which are required today for solving the post-nationalisation problems that we are facing. There are plenty of places where corruption is still going on. It

is our duty, with the cooperation of the Opposition, and it is the duty of the high officers, and they are discharging their duty quite well, to catch and specify those points where corruption might still be going on either at a lower level or even at the same level. I make a promise here that it will be our serious effort and endeavour to see that all these holes are plugged and we are able to catch those people, that we are going to ameliorate the condition of the workers and that we are going to create a pattern of coordination between ourselves which will ultimately effectively increase the production.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: He has not answered my question. It is a very serious thing. 51 per cent of the coal should have been brought from the captive mines of TISCO. But the hon. Minister did not say anything about it.

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: The coal which reaches the steel mills is not enough to register an increase as we want it to, or as has been recorded now or planned now for production. If we increase the quantity only by a little, that is not enough even to increase the production of coal because we must have a buffer stock in order to ensure ...

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Alipore): He is asking about the TISCO captive mines.

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: TISCO captive mines are not closed.

Their production alone has been reduced.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: Kindly ask the Minister to listen. TISCO have their own captive mines and 51 per cent of the coal required by TISCO could have been supplied by exploiting those mines. TISCO did not do that in a deliberate effort to sabotage production.

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: I will make enquiries and let the hon. member know.

RE: MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT

MR. SPEAKER: I have received notice of so many adjournment motions.

The first is one by Shri P. M. Mehta; then there are many others, Shri Madhu Dandavate, Shri C. K. Chandrappan, Shri Ramavatar Shastri, Shri H. N. Mukerjee, Shri Indrajit Gupta, Shri Bhogendra Jha, Shri Samar Mukherjee, Shri Saroj Mukherjee, Shri Dinen Bhattacharyya. Shri Dinesh Joarder, Shri Samar Guha, Shri S. M. Banerjee, Shri Jyotirmoy Bosu and Shri Mukhtiar Singh Malik, Shri Mehta's motion is on 'failure of the Government to check the unprecedented rise in price of all essential commodities and in particular in the foodgrains at the time when the country had bumper crops'. Is he pressing for it?

SHRI P. M. MEHTA (Bhavnagar): I would like to make a submission. We, the signatories of the motion, have consulted among ourselves and we feel that as many members are electioneering, no fruitful or purposeful discussion will take place. Therefore, I do not press for my adjournment motion.

MR. SPEAKER: There are so many others also.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour): You have to ask one after another.

MR. SPEAKER: I cannot ask everybody.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: That is the procedure.

MR. SPEAKER: Do I take it that you do not want it?

SHRI P. M. MEHTA: I do not want to move it.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: You should take what Shri Mehta has said ...

MR. SPEAKER: No.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: I am trying to help you.

MR. SPEAKER: I will take your help whenever I need it.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur): I agree with the reason given by Shri Mehta. I do not press for it.

MR. SPEAKER: Then Shri C. K. Chandrappa—No;

Shri Ramavatar Shastri—No;

Shri H. N. Mukherjee, Shri Inderjit Gupta, Shri Bhogendra Jha—No; Shri Samar Mukherjee, Shri Saroj Mukherjee, Shri Dinen Bhattacharyya, Shri Dinesh Joarder, Shri Samar Guha, Shri S. M. Banerjee, Shri Jyotirmoy Bosu—no.

SHRI JYOTRMOY BOSU: Not today.

MR. SPEAKER: What is left of an adjournment motion if it is not taken up immediately? Shri Mukhtiar Singh Malik—No.

Nobody is pressing for it. I am not putting it to vote. This is not moved. There are others also. I hope they follow the same way. Nobody is pressing for it.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Everything will come next week. The bazar will be full .

MR. SPEAKER: You call this House a 'bazar'?

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Political bazar (*Interruptions*): He is catching the wrong end of the stick.

MR. SPEAKER: It is not a question of his catching. You are converting this into a bazar next week!

There are other motions, of no-confidence. I understand they are all withdrawn, for today they are withdrawn.

Papers to be laid on the Table.

SHRI P. G. MAVALANKAR (Ahmedabad): I had given notice of an adjournment motion on the situation in Gujarat, the grave incidents that have taken place in Ahmedabad and other parts of Gujarat.

MR. SPEAKER: I have allowed a call attention motion on that.

SHRI P. G. MAVALANKAR: With great respect Mr. Speaker, Sir, may I submit that though you have allowed a call attention motion for day after tomorrow, the matter is so urgent and serious that unless it is discussed as early as possible, much more damage will be done and many more innocent lives will be lost!

13 hrs.

So, on this matter of Adjournment Motion—

SHRI K. S. CHAVDA (Patan) I have also given notice of an Adjournment Motion.

SHRI P. G . MAVALANKAR: Sir, let me complete my submission.

MR. SPEAKER: Before you complete your submission, I want to tell you that I have allowed the Calling Attention Motion for day after tomorrow. But if you want to press the Adjournment Motion, I can put it to the vote.

SHRI P. G. MAVALANKAR: I want to submit -

MR SPEAKER There is no question of submission.

SHRI K. S CHAVDA. I would like to say about my Adjournment Motion—

SHRI P. G. MAVALANKAR: Sir, I want to say—

MR. SPAKER. I will allow you only if you want to press it. If you want to get it moved in the House, I can allow you.

SHRI K. S. CHAVDA: The point is that I have also given notice of an Adjournment Motion, and you have not called the names of all the Members. That is the point.

MR. SPEAKER: I allowed the first one only. The rule is that only one is taken up and that has already gone. That is withdrawn.

SHRI K. S. CHAVDA: Why are all the other names not called out?

MR. SPEAKER: That was the first one.

SHRI K. S. CHADVA: You should have called the other names also.

MR. SPEAKER: The next one cannot come because the first one has already been dealt with.

SHRI P. G. MAVALANKAR: Sir, regarding my Adjournment Motion—

MR SPEAKER: I have allowed the Calling Attention motion. Kindly sit down. You will get it day after tomorrow.

So, now there is no-confidence motion. Anybody will not say later on that he was not present. Papers to be laid on the Table.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Sir, please allow me just one minute. I do not want to interrupt the proceedings of the House. I never do it. We want your protection. The UP elections are going on, and the Prime Minister is campaigning. One of our Socialist Party candidates is detained—

MR SPEAKER: I allowed only one item under rule 377; that is coming later on. I am not allowing you.

There is no question of assurance.

If the elections are not fair, the machinery of the Election Commission is available. They are bound to make it free and fair. The Election Commission is there to see that the elections are free and fair.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Will the Home Minister come forward with an assurance?

MR. SPEAKER: Order, order. What is all this? I have passed on to the next item-Papers to be laid on the Table.

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13 03 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

STATEMENT *re* DISPOSITION OF RUPEE ACCUMULATION IN INDIA BY GOVERNMENT

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): I beg to lay on the Table a statement on the disposition of rupee accumulation in India by India by the U.S. Government [*Placed in library. See* No. LT-6143/74.]

NORTH-EASTERN AREAS (REORGANISATION (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE 1974

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI K. RAGHU RAMAIAH): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the North-Eastern Areas (Reorganisation) (Amendment) Ordinance, 1974 (No. 1 of 1974) (Hindi and English versions) promulgated by the President on the 19th January, 1974, under provisions of article 123 (2) (a) of the Constitution. [*Placed in library. See* No. LT-6144/74.]

STATEMENT SHOWING RESULT OF CENTRAL GOVERNMENT MARKET BORROWINGS IN DECEMBER, 1973

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN: I beg to lay on the Table a statement (Hindi and English versions) indicating the result of the Central Government Market Borrowings in December, 1973. [*Placed in library. See* No. LT--6145/74.]

PROCLAMATION AND PRESIDENT'S ORDER IN RELATION TO GUJARAT STATE AND GOVERNOR'S REPORT TO THE PRESIDENT

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): I beg to lay on the Table.

(1) A copy of the Proclamation (Hindi and English versions) dated the 9th February, 1974 issued by the President under article 356 of the Constitution in relation to the State of Gujarat, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 34(E) in Gazette of India dated the 9th February, 1974, under article 356(3) of the Constitution. [*Placed in Library*. *See* No. LT-6146/74]

(2) A copy of the Order (Hindi and English versions) dated the 9th February, 1974, made by the President in pursuance of sub-clause (i) of clause (c) of the above Proclamation, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 35(E) in Gazette of India dated the 9th February, 1974. [*Placed in Library*.. *See* No. LT-6147/74]

(3) A copy of the Report dated the 9th February, 1974 of the Governor of Gujarat to the President (Hindi and English versions). [*Placed in Library*. *See* No. LT-6148/74.]

COMPANY'S LIQUIDATION ACCOUNT (AMENDMENT) RULES

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Company's Liquidation Account (Amendment) Rules, 1973 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 523 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 15th December, 1973, under sub-section (3) of section 642 of the Companies Act, 1956. [*Placed in Library See No.* LT—6149/474]

SHRI K. S. CHAVDA (Patan): Sir, on a point of order. It is with regard to item No. 6. The corrupt Gujarat Ministry——

MR. SPEAKER: You cannot make a speech while it is being laid on the Table of the House.

SHRI K. S. CHAVDA: I am formulating my point of order, and how can you give your judgment before I complete it?

MR SPEAKER: There is no point of order at the time of laying it.

SHRI K S. CHAVDA: Sir, please hear me. My point of order is this. The proclamation issued by the President——

MR. SPEAKER: it is coming up before the House. May I tell you that while it is being laid no such points of order or any such objection can be raised, except that it is delayed if there was any delay in laying it When the proclamation is taken up by the House, you may point it out at that time

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13.05 hrs.

STATEMENT RE: JUNIOR DOCTORS' STRIKE IN DELHI

MR. SPEAKER: Dr. Karan Singh to make a statement.

SHRI S A. SHAMIM (Srinagar): You are allowing Dr. Karan Singh to make a statement. For the last two months he has been using the media of television and radio and other things. Now you are providing him a forum here. The point of view of junior doctors is not before us and we will not also be able to ask questions.

MR. SPEAKER: Radio, newspaper and any other media cannot substitute this House.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour): We had given notice

of a call attention motion. Why did you not adopt at least one of them so that it could have been a twoway dialogue instead of allowing him to make a statement *suo motu?*

MR. SPEAKER: So far as this statement is concerned, let it be made The other procedures are open to you, you can ask for a discussion. Call attention motion for day after tomorrow is fixed on your own demand; it is not my discretion.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: I could have been advanced.

MR. SPEAKER: You ask Mr. Mavalankar.

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (DR. KARAN SINGH): Hon. Members are aware of the unfortunate situation that has developed as a result of the prolonged strike of Junior Doctors in Delhi and the attempts by some misguided elements to pressurize Government by disrupting the process of medical education and medical care in the country. With your permission, Sir, I am laying on the Table of the House a detailed note which gives the background of the Junior Doctors' strike in Delhi and details the steps that Government have taken to meet their demands. Without taking much time of the House, I would like to point out that Government has made handsome increases in the emoluments of these Junior Doctors, going up to as much as 100 per cent in some categories over the last one year as shown in the attached statement, and has also made a number of other clarifications in their favour. It is a matter for deep regret that the Junior Doctors have not reciprocated this gesture, and continue to be adamant.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: How much does a Minister cost the Government? More than Rs. 50,000 a month. The Doctors also want to survive.

DR. KARAN SINGH: I am sure the House will agree that while the lot of Junior Doctors needs to be improved, a concurrent responsibility devolves upon them to fulfil the pledges that they have taken when they graduated and to maintain the noble traditions of the medical profession. The present strike has caused a great deal of avoidable suffering to large sections of the population in and around Delhi, Chandigarh and Pondicherry, the burden of which has fallen particularly on the weaker and more vulnerable sections of society who can ill-afford the services of private medical practitioners. This has gone on for too long, and I would on the floor of this Hon. House repeat my appeal to the rank and file of the Junior Doctors to accept the offer made by Government and return to work immediately. A dialogue on their remaining problems can always continue.

May I, Sir, take this opportunity to place on record my deep appreciation of the services rendered by the Senior Doctors and the CGHS Doctors in very difficult circumstances. Without their untiring efforts the adverse impact upon the general public would have been much greater. They are bearing a heavy burden, and Government has already taken steps to recruit some frash doctors. If the striking doctors continue to default on their responsibilities, we will be left with no choice but to make permanent alternative arrangements so that the hospitals can be brought back to the normal level of functioning.

SHRI JOYTIRMOY BOSU: There was a latter signed by the health Secretary, Shri Ramachandran. Why do you go back on that assurance?

DR. KARAN SINGH: It can be discussed. I am not afraid of a dis-

[Dr. Karan Singh]

cussion. At any time that the hon. Speaker and the Business Advisory Committee want, we can have it.

MR. SPEAKER: Do you think you will be able to serve the doctors by this attitude? You can have a discussion and you can place your viewpoint at that time. You cannot force me like this.

DR. KARAN SINGH. If Shri Bosu thinks that he can frighten me, it is an exercise in futility.

SHRI JOYTIRMOY BOSU: While the Ministers are living in all luxury they are forcing the doctors to starve...... (*Interruptions*)

DR. KARAN SINGH: When there is a running commentary like this, is it possible to make a statement?

MR. SPEAKER: I would request members to allow the Minister to make his statement. They will not be serving the cause of the doctors by this behaviour.

DR. KARAN SINGH: Apart from the problem in central institutions, I have been greatly parturbed at the continuing unrest among medical students and Junior Doctors in various parts of the country. Partly, of course this is a reflection of the generational tensions that have become a world-wide phenomenon, and of the fact that in a developing society like ours social change and economic frustration combine to create explosive situations. But it is also clear that the whole system of medical education needs to be restructured and streamlined in order to make it a more effective instument for meeting the growing requirements of our people. Medical education must become an integral part of a broad health manpower development policy, so that the heavy investments made therein bring a commensurate return to society, specially to the weaker worker sections and those living in rural areas. With this intention, Government is actively considering the setting up of a high-powered Medical Education Commission which will look into entire problem on a national basis and make a study in depth of the various aspects of restructuring medical education from the pre-medical right upto the post-graduate standard.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Sir, I want to point out....

MR. SPEAKER: No questions will be allowed. If you want, you can have a discussion.

SHRI JOYTIRMOY BOSU: Sir, we want a clarification. The Secretary of the Ministry, Shri Ramachandran, had given an assurance to the doctors I have got a copy of it.... (*Interruptions*).

MR. Speaker: He can raise it at the time of the discussion.

SHRI K. S. CHAVDA (Patna): Sir, I have given a notice under rule 377.

MR. SPEAKER: There is a Calling Attention day after tomorrow. Today I have allowed only Shri Jyotirmoy Basu

SHRI K. S. CHAVDA: Sir, I have discussed this matter with you and you know the position. I want to raise it under rule 377 and I want the Home Minister to make a statement. That is why I am making my point.

MR. SPEAKER: When you showed it to me in the morning I explained to you that only a general motion could be allowed and not on any particular person. That Calling Attention is already coming day after tomorrow.

SHRI K. S. CHAVDA: That is correct. It is on a specific issue.

Sir, will you allow me one minute? Members are making a hue and cry and violating the rule. But you do not hear members who are very peaceful and silent. This has happened in Gujarat also in the case of people who were agitating peacefully.

MR. SPEAKER: I have allowed only Shri Jyotirmoy Bosu to make a statement under rule 377. Shri Jyotirmoy Bosu.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

All the motions cannot come Only one motion can come. I have allowed one motion—of Shri Jyotirmoy Bosu and Shri H. M. Patel. If all the 50 Members want to talk like that, how can that go on?

The Parliament is sitting for three months. A number of opportunities will come up. We are going to discuss the President's Address and the General Budget also.

All of you please sit down. I have allowed one.

Shri Jyotirmoy Bosu.

MATTER UNDER RULE 377

13.20 hrs.

ELECTION COMMISSIONS REPORTED DICISION STAGGERING POLLING DATES IN ORISSA

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour): I have received numerous telegrams, including one from two Members of Parliament which reads as follows:

"Election Commission's arbitrary decision staggering poll dates from twenty-fourth instant to twenty-second, twenty-fourth and twenty-sixth takes voters by surprise and causes much inconvenience to voters and parties. Pretext of non-availability of teachers for poll work exposed after teachers' press statement offering their services. This is designed for low polling which will help Congress. Decision so much anti-people. All parties including Congress and CPI resented before Chief Electoral Officer. Solicit raise issue in parliament."

I would like to draw the attention of the Law Minister and through him the Election Commissioner to this and request that this matter should be immediately looked into and such steps should not be taken which will upset, annoy and displease the contesting political parties. I would like the hon. Minister to give an assurance to this effect on the floor of the House.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Alipore): The same telegram was received by me from Mr. Loknath Mishra, a Member of the other House. There seems to be a contradiction in it. He says that this is meant to help the Congress; but at the same time he also says that the Congress itself has protested.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. H. M. Patel He is not here.

We now adjourn for Lunch. The House stands adjourned till 2.30 p.m.

13.24 hrs.

The Lok Sabha adjourned for lunch till thirty minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

The Lok Sabha reassembled after Lunch at thirty-six minutes past fourteen of the clock

14.36 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER—*in the Chair*]

NATIONAL COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (SECOND AMENDMENT) BILL

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The House will now take up the National Cooperative Development Corporation (Second Amendment) Bill.

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER (Ausgram): Sir, I have received yesterday a telegram from Punjab about the indiscriminate and brutal attack on the people assembled peacefully on the opening session of the twenty-third Punjab Kisan Conference at Sunam district Sangrur. It is an attack on their fundamental rights.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: How does it come here? This is a subject which falls within the State. There is a State Government.

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER: I have sent notice under Rule 377. I have sent copies of the telegram.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Order please. Now the House will take up National Cooperative Development Corporation (Second Amendment) Bill.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE): Sir, I beg to move:*

"That the Bill further to amend the National Cooperative Development Corporation Act, 1962, be taken into consideration."

The Bill seeks to amend the National Cooperative Development Corporation Act, 1962. As hon. Members are aware, the National Cooperative Development Corporation came into being in 1963 by a Statute of the Parliament. It is a successor organisation to the National Cooperative Development and Warehousing Board which was established in 1956 in pursuance of the recommendations of the All India Rural Credit Survey Committee. The principal responsibility of this Corporation is to promote planned development of marketing processing storage of agricultural produce and distribution of essential agricultural requirements of farmers through cooperatives and to this and provide financial assistance to them through the State Governments.

The Public Accounts Committee 1969-70 of Fourth Lok Sabha in its 106th Report on the National Cooperative Development Corporation made certain observations on the functioning of this Corporation and suggested that the Government may have a detailed expert study made of the working of this Corporation and 'come to a decision on the necessity for the continuance of the National Cooperative Development Corporation'. In pursuance of this the Government appointed an Expert Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri B. Venkatappiah. The Committee made a detailed review of the functioning of the Corporation and came to the conclusion that the NCDC should not only be continued but should be adequately strengthened. Referring to the performance of the Corporation the Committee observed:

"The striking progress recorded by various cooperative programmes, the planning and promotion of which is the responsibility of the NCDC, under its charter, does credit to the NCDC.'

As for the need for continuance of the NCDC, the Committee observed. I quote.

"If the main object which underlay the establishment of the NCDC was important when that institution was conceived, it is even more important today when agricultural growth is much larger in dimension and much more diversified in composition. In our view, then the NCDC should remain; but it must do so as an effective promoter, innovator; coordinator and, to the extent necessary, financier. The Corporation has to function in conjunction with and through the State Governments who are responsible for the implementation of various coopera-

tive programmes. The aim of the NCDC should be to help State Governments to initiate and implement programmes of cooperative development in the States. There is nothing in this that can be regarded as an encroachment on the activities of the State Governments nor does the NCDC unnecessarily duplicate the functions of the Union Department of Cooperation. While the Department is responsible for enunciation of policies in relation to the Corporation and its activities, the scope of the Corporation's responsibility relates to the formulation, execution and financing of programmes.

Further, the NCDC should be a representative body at the national level; it has to be so reconstituted as to provide a forum for cooperative and other non-official leadership on the one hand and on the other, for the Central Government, the State Governments and the relevant public sector organisations, both financial and commercial. In such a forum can be discussed the broad policies concerning the planning, initiating, developing and financing of a nation-wide cooperatve programme for marketing, processing, storage and other allied activity. Thus conceived, the role of the NCDC cannot be construed as prejudicially affecting the prospects of de-officialization of the cooperative movement".

The other major recommendations of the Committee are:—

(a) The Corporation should pay special attention to evolving suitable economic programmes for assisting tribals small farmers and other weaker sections of the rural community, as also for relatively backward areas of the country.

(b) The activities of the Corporation should be specifically extended to cover diary, fishery, poultry and minor forest produce, for benefiting primarily the tribal population and other weaker setions.

(c) The constitution of the Corporation should be broad-based so that it becomes a more representative and expert body.

(d) The corporation should have adequate funds to match its new responsibilities.

The Government have accepted the recommendations of the Committee that the NCDC should not only continue, but it should be strengthened both financially and organizationally. The basic principles underlying the recommendations of the Committee are sought to be incorporated in this Bill. The salient features of the Bill are.—

(a) The activities of the Corporation are proposed to be extended to cover dairy, poultry, fishery, and minor forest produce (Clause 8 of the Bill, read with sub-clause (iv) of Clause 3 of the Bill).

(b) The constitution of the NCDC is proposed to be more broad-based. The General Council of the Corporation will consist of 51 members. Representation will be given to the Central Government, the State Governments, the National Federations. State Federations and Central financing and other institutions (Clause 4 of the Bill).

(c) The Board of Management will consist of 12 members, in which representation will be given to Central Government, National Federations State Federations, State Governments, the Reserve Bank and experts in agricultural cooperative development (Clause 9 of the Bill).

(d) At present, NCDC can borrow only from the Central Government. Provision is being made for providing access to

[Shri Annasaheb P. Shinde]

> NCDC to borrow funds from the open market and financing institutions (Clause 11 of the Bill).

As I explained, the primary objective of the Bill is to strengthen the rural infrastructure for economic activities in the agricultural sector through co-operatives, with accent on helping the weaker sections and backward areas. This is a simple and non-controversial Bill whose main aim is rural development through cooperatives I, therefore, hope, Sir, that all sections of the House will support this Bill.

I have also moved separately some technical amendments because the Bill, as it was contemplated was moved in 1973 but, since we are now in 1974, some technical and consequential amendments necessary have been introduced.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Motion moved:

> "That the Bill further to amend the National Cooperative Development Corporation Act, 1962, be taken into consideration."

Shri Bhattacharya.

SHRI S. P. BHATACHARYYA (Uluberia): Sir, as the Bill is according to the suggestions of the Expert Committee, accordingly, amendments have been brought forward. I support those amendments.

I must, however, say that the cooperative, in general in our country, has not really benefited the poor. But, it has benefited the richer sections only. Even the rich persons taking money from the cooperatives are becoming *mahajans* in the villages and they are exploiting the poor people. This is the general characteristic in West Bengal. We have got experience here; so, we can say that in many places, it is the richer section who is getting the profits out of the cooperatives and not the poorer sections of the people. Though the Expert Committee has stated that the NCDC has done a good job in its development, it is not so in practice I am sure that in our country the cooperatives can help the people better and the cooperatives can be developed faster. It would be much better if more capital had been invested in this so that the country is really benefited out of this. I can give you one example. Take the case of jute. NCDC can procure jute but that has not been done at all. The peasants are cheated; they are compelled to sell the jute at a lower price and the mill-owners sell jute at a higher price and their agents only make profits. This is the case not only in West Bengal, but in Bihar and UP as well and the jute-growers are being cheated in this manner and the National Co-operative Development Corporation could not help in this matter. We know how much of bungling is there in West Bengal Money is sanctioned but it is not passed on and it is delayed with the result that the really needy people are not benefited. In spite of this, I support these amendments, and in fact, I could submit that more can be done.

Isotopes are now used for preservation of foodstuffs, and already the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre has shown that wheat and potato can be preserved by using isotopes. The Health Minister has given sanction for this I would suggest that this method should be utilised so that the poor peasants can preserve their food products and the National Cooperative Development Corporation can help them to preserve the food product by teaching them how to do it This is one suggestion that I would like to place before the hon. Minister for his consideration.

Isotopes may also be utilised for preservation of fish. That also has been successfully tried in the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre. The Health Ministry however has not yet given

permission to use this method, though it has been successfully done. The hon. Minister should know that our marine fish production can be increased a thousand times more if only we can catch fish in the sea in the marine area and preserve them by using isotopes.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: On a co-operative basis?

SHRI S. P. BHATTACHARYYA: Co operatives can help.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: If he says that this should be done on a co-operative basis, then that will arise.

SHRI S. P. BHATTACHARYYA Even catching fish on a co-operative basis can be done. It is done through co-operatives in some areas and we have got the exports.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I am only pointing out the question of relevancy.

SHRI S. P. BHATTACHARYYA. It is done through co-operatives in some areas. The co-operative organisation can keep the machinery for preserving the fish and the fisherman can sell their fish to the Centre, and thus the co-operatives can help in this matter and thereby the fish production could also be increased. But that does not appear to be within the imagination of our Ministers even now. I had been is Cochin recently and I found that our fishermen could catch fish only up to 12 k.m. The Soviets and the Taliwan fishermen can catch fish in the deep seas, but we do not, since the fish that our fishermen catch become rotten since they have to come back soon. If we can preserve the fish caught on the seas then our fish catch can be increased very much....

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Provided it is a done on a cooperative basis. Then it has relevancy to this discussion.

SHRI S. P. BHATTACHARYYA: The co-operatives may keep the machinery for preservation and the fishermen can utilise it. In the Bill itself, the preservation of fish has been suggested as one of the functions. I hope you understand it. Perhaps you have not gone through the provisions of the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I understand it. I have gone through the provisions. The only proposal is that the National Co-operative Development Corporation is....

SHRI S. P. BHATTACHARYYA: In the Bill, it has been provided:

> "for clause (d) the following clauses shall be inserted, namely:—
>
> (do) 'foodstuffs' include—
>
> (vi) meat, whether fresh, frozen dried or preserved;".

In fact, this was suggested by the expert committee.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: To the extent that co-operatives function to preserve fish. But it does not go beyond 12 miles of our territorial waters That is too big.

SHRI S. P. BHATTACHARYYA: Why not even in the territorial waters? The Soviet ships and Taiwanese ships can come there, but we cannot go We can go deeper into the Arabian Sea and the Bay of Bengal. Now we are incapable of doing so; we are confined to the territorial waters.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I am only pointing out that we are discussing co-operation and not fisheries as such.

SHRI S. P. BHATTACHARYYA: You are attacking at the wrong point. You must understand that we can catch more fish if we go deeper into the sea. If we can utilise isotopes to preserve fish, our fishermen can go deeper into the sea and catch more fish. That is the point I am making. That is not a thing that can be objected to. Please do not object to that.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I am not objecting; I am only pointing out the relevancy of the discussion

SHRI S. P. BHATTACHARYYA: Other countries go deeper into the seas. Because scientifically we are backward, we cannot do so. Our fish catch can be increased much more if we can fish in the deeper seas. So I suggest to the Minister that this should be considered. If we do so, it will really help augment our food production. We can have more fish manure. We can have other marine products. We can also export these products. So if this is done, it will really be helpful. The Minister should think on these lines.

श्री रामावतार शास्त्री (पटना): उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मंत्री जी ने ठीक ही कहा कि राष्ट्रीय सहकारी निगम संशोधन विधेयक, जिस पर हम अभी बहस कर रहे हैं यह ऐसा विधेयक है जिसका सभी तरफ से समर्थन होना चाहिए। मैं भी इसका समर्थन करते हुए कुछ बातें कहना चाहता हूं। जो इस विधेयक का उद्देश्य बतलाया गया है उस उद्देश्य की प्राप्ति के लिए यह जरूरी है कि सहकारी समितियों को हम ठीक तरह से संचालित करें। अगर आपका ध्यान, यानी सरकार का ध्यान सहकारी समितियों में व्याप्त भ्रष्टाचार और तमाम तरह की बुराइयों को रोकने की तरफ नहीं गया और जिस तरीके से सहकारी समितियों पर निहित स्वार्थ के लोग कुंडली मारकर बैठे हुए हैं उनकी मनमानी को अगर रोका नहीं गया तथा जिस उद्देश्य के लिए सहकारी समितियों का गठन किया गया है या किया जाता है, उनमें सुधार नहीं किया गया तो इस तरह का निगम बनाने से ज्यादा फायदा नहीं होगा। यों इस विधेयक में कहा गया है कि लोक सेवा समिति के सुझाव के मुताबिक इस विधेयक के जरिये सरकार कमजोर वर्ग के लोगों को समर्थ बनाने के लिए, उन्हें अपने पैरों पर खड़ा करने के लिए, उन्हें रोजी और रोटी देने के लिए इस तरह के निगम का निर्माण या गठन करने की बात हम यहां कर रहे हैं। इसीलिए इस पृष्ठभूमि में मैंने कहा क्या कमजोर वर्गों को सही माने में पूरे हिन्दुस्तान के अन्दर सहयोग मिल रहा है या नहीं, उनको उसका फायदा मिल रहा है या नहीं। अपने सूबे के अनुभव से मैं जानता हूं कि ऐसी बात नहीं हो रही है। जैसा कि मैंने पहले ही बतलाया, इस पर वेस्टेड इन्ट्रेस्ट्स के लोग, निहित स्वार्थ के लोग, धनी तबके के लोग, कर्जा देने वाले लोग, जिनके हाथ में पैसा है, जिनके हाथ में जमीन और सम्पत्ति है, उन्हीं लोगों को गावों में, जिस प्रकार की भी सहकारी समिति हो, कब्जा है। जब तक आप उसमें सुधार नहीं करेंगे जिससे जनता ज्यादा से ज्यादा अपने मनोनुकूल व्यवस्था कर सके—जब तक ऐसी व्यवस्था नहीं होगी तब तक निगम उन सहकारी समितियों को जिस उद्देश्य के लिए खड़ा किया गया है उसको हासिल करने में कामियाब नहीं होगा। इसका फायदा अभी जो सहकारी समितियों में लोग हैं वही उठायेंगे। तो जैसा मैंने कहा इसका उद्देश्य अच्छा है, नेक है कि सहकारी समितियों को प्रजातांत्रिक ढांचे में ढालना चाहिए ताकि गरीब से गरीब व्यक्ति उससे लाभान्वित हो सके परन्तु वह उद्देश्य अभी पूरा नहीं हो रहा है। सरकार बहुत सा पैसा सहकारी समितियों को देती है, वह जनता का पैसा है, कमजोर वर्ग और किसानों की मदद के लिए ही सरकार वह पैसा देती है ताकि छोटे छोटे किसान मौके पर बीज, खाद खरीद सकें, खेती के दूसरे सामान उनको मोहैया किये जा सकें परन्तु उस पैसे का दुरुपयोग होता है। समितियों के जो पदाधिकारी होते हैं वे उस पैसे को खा जाते हैं, पचा जाते हैं। मजे की बात तो यह है कि अभी जो सहकारी समितियों का कानून है उसमें एक ही आदमी जितनी बार भी चाहता है मन्त्री बन जाता है या कोई दूसरा ओहदेदार बन जाता है। लोग चिल्लाते रहते हैं लेकिन

मैनिपुलेशन करके वही लोग बारबार उसमें बैठ जाते हैं। जब तक आप इस बात को दुरुस्त नहीं करेंगे कि सही मानों में चुनाव हों, सही लोग चुने जायें, कुछ लोग ही उसको अपनी इजारेदारी न समझें तब तक आपका यह बिल अच्छा होते हुए भी, जिन कमजोर वर्गों के फायदे के लिए आप इसको बनाना चाहते हैं, इसका विस्तार करना चाहते हैं बिल के जरिए, इसके कार्यों को विस्तारित करना चाहते हैं परन्तु आपके यह सारे नेक इरादे इस किताब में ही रखे रह जायेंगे। जैसे हमारे देश में बहुत सारे अच्छे अच्छे कानून बने हुए हैं लेकिन उनका क्रियान्वयन नही होता, उन्हें हम अमल में नही ला पाते है, तो वही बात इसके साथ भी होगी।

पहली बात मैं यह कहना चाहता हूं कि इसके साथ साथ आप सहकारी समितियो में सुधार लाने के लिए अपने पैमाने पर, भारतीय स्तर पर बिल लावें। आप कह देंगे कि यह तो राज्य सरकारें बनाती हैं. वे बनाती है लेकिन आप गाइडलाइन्स दीजिए। अभी हम बहुत तरह के कानून बनाते है, राज्य सरकारें भी अपने यहां उन कानूनों को बनाती हैं लेकिन हम उनको यह बताते हैं कि इस आधार पर कानून बनना चाहिए और सारे देश में एकरूपता आनी चाहिए। सहकारी समितियों के लिए भी जब तक आप ऐसा नही करेंगे तब तक आपका कानून बनेगा परन्तु जनता को कोई फायदा नहीं होगा। समितियों में जो लोग आज बैठे हैं कल भी वही बैठे रहेंगे, परसों भी बैठे रहेंगे और फायदा कुछ नहीं होगा, कमजोर वर्ग को हम उठा नहीं सकेंगे। कमजोर वर्गों को उठाने के लिए ही हम सहकारी समितियों का गठन करते हैं, उनकी स्थापना करते है, उनको संचालित करते हैं, लाखों-करोड़ों रुपया सरकार उन पर खर्च करती है, इसमें आपको संतोष जरूर हो जाता है कि हमने आम जनता के लिए, गरीबों के लिए, कमजोर वर्ग के लोगों के लिए, आर्थिक रूप से जिनकी स्थिति बहुत खराब है उनको आगे बढ़ाने के लिए कुछ कर दिया है लेकिन जब शहरों तथा देहातों में जायेंगे जहां सहकारी समितिया बनी हैं तो उनकी हालत देख कर आपको बड़ी निराशा होगी और सोचेंगे कि इतना पैसा बर्बाद हो गया है।

दूसरी बात मुझे यह कहनी है कि इसके संगठन का जो ढांचा बनाया है उसमें कितने ही लोगों को ला कर अपने रख दिया है। उसको आपने बहुत बोझिल कर दिया है। क्या सगठन का कोई छोटा ढांचा नही बन सकता था? इतने विशाल और भारी भरकम ढांचे की क्या जरूरत थी? उनको कम कर सकते है। तो इतनी भारी भरकम कमेटी बनाने को क्या जरूरत है। इसको छोटा करना चाहिए। जितने ही अधिक लोग होंगे उतना ही अधिक आप को टी० ए०, डी० ए० देना होगा। इसलिए इसको छोटा कोजिए और इसमें जनता का भी सहयोग लीजिए। आप खाली अफ़सरों को ले रहे हैं। एक माननीय सदस्य ने संशोधन दिया है, हम उसका समर्थन करेंगे कि इस में जो चेयरमैन हो वह जानकार होना चाहिए। कोआपरेटिव आन्दोलन को जिस को जानकारी नहीं है उस को आप चेयरमैन बना दें तो बहस कुछ होगी और वह समझेगा कुछ। तो ऐसे लोगों को लिया जाय जिन को जानकारी हो। दूसरे आप ने यह किया कि सब का नोमिनेशन होगा। कहीं इलेक्शन रखा ही नहीं। अगर यही सिलसिला चला तो काम गड़बड़ होगा। कुछ चुने हुए लोगों का स्थान भी होना चाहिए था। लेकिन 51 में से एक आदमी को भी चुना हुआ नहीं रखा। तो जाहिर बात है जो आप की हां में हां मिलाने वाले होंगे उन्हीं को रखियेगा

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE: You should have read the Bill more carefully.

श्री रामावतार शास्त्री : जी नहीं, मैंने पढ़ा है।

इसलिये कुछ निर्वाचित प्रतिनिधि होने चाहिये, विशेषज्ञ हों, और छोटी कमेटी हो, एक बात और कहनी है कि हमारे देश मे अखिल भारतीय स्तर पर किसान संगठन बने है, आल इंडिया किसान सभा एक है जिस मे डा० जेड० ए० अहमद है, वह शायद एग्रीकलचर प्राइस कमीशन के चेयरमेन भी है, ऐसे लोगों को लेने की कही व्यवस्था इस बिल मे नही है जो लोग किसानों के सही माने मे प्रतिनिधि है उन की कठिनाईयो को जानते है, कि उन को कैसे हल कर सकते है, कोआपरेटिव मे क्या सुधार लाया जा सकता है, इस तरह के लोगों को तो रखा ही नही गया। उन के लिये भी व्यवस्था होनी चाहिये ताकि वह वहां जाकर के किसानो की सही बातो को रख सके अभी जितने लोग रखे गये है वे ज्यादातर वेस्टेड इंटरेस्ट के लोगों की ही मदद करेगे इस लिये आप इन बातों पर गौर कीजिये ताकि इस को और अच्छा बना सकें, निगम और अच्छी तरह से काम कर सकें, ज्यादा उसका प्रजातान्त्रिकरण हो सके ज्यादा से ज्यादा लोग हिस्सा ले सके। अत इस के सगठन के बारे मे कुछ विचार कीजिये।

इन शब्दों के साथ मुझे विश्वास है कि आप पूरे देश के अन्दर सहकारी समितियों को कुछ ऊचा उठाने मे और उनकी ज्यादा से ज्यादा मदद करने मे सहायक होंगे और उसके पैसे का ठीक से इस्तेमाल हो इस को देखेगे। और ऐसी गारन्टी पैदा तभी होगी जब आप पूरे सहकारी समितियां के कानून मे परिवर्तन करेगे।

श्री मूल चन्द डागा (पाली) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मै माननीय शिन्दे साहब को इस बिल के लिए धन्यवाद देता हूं लेकिन उन से निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि कानून इसलिये नही बनता है कि उस को केवल पढे लिखे लोग ही समझ सकें, लेकिन कानुन ऐसा होना चाहिये जिस को साधारण आदमी भी समझ सके आप बिल का क्लाज (2) देखिये जिसमे (ab) (da) (db) (dc) (dd) दिया हुआ है। मै पूछना चाहता हू कि क्या कोई साधारण आदमी जो कानून को पढना चाहे वह इस को समझ सकेगा ? आखिर आप क्या संशोधन करना चाहते है। 1973 के अन्दर आप ने सशोधन किया, अगर एन०सी० डी० सी० के कानून को कोई गरीब आदमी पढ़ कर समझना चाहे तो क्या वह समझ सकता है ? यह (डी०बी०) (डी०सी०) क्या है कुछ समझ मे नही आता इसलिये वहा आप को सशोधन करना है उस को पूरा बनाइये। यह क्या तरीका है जिस तरह से यह बिल लाया गया है ? क्या कोई साधारण आदमी समझ सकता है कि आप कौन सा सशोधन पेश कर रहे है कानून ऐसा होना चाहिये जिस का सारे लोग आसानी से पढ सके और समझ सके।

अब आप का प्रायेसिव लेजिस्लेशन है तो आप अपना पहला कानून देखिये :

"There shall be a Chairman and a Vice-Chairman of the Corporation who shall be chosen from among the members in such manner as may be prescribed."

पहले यह था कि चेयरमैन चोजन होगा और अब आपने नोमिनेट कर दिया आप पहले कहते थे कि चेयरमैन, वाइस चेयरमैन इलेक्टेड होंगे लेकिन अब आप नोमीनेट कर रहे है। गवर्नमेंट का खर्चा कितना हुआ? 74 करोड़ रु० आपको सरकार ने दे रखा है। और आप एन० डी० डी० सी० क्यों चलाना चाहते है, और वह क्या काम करता है जब कि हिन्दुस्तान का एक कोआपरेटिव डिपार्टमेंट है और आप कुछ नही उस मे से कर सकते। आप ने कहा कि जहा पर पहले 28 आदमी थे उसकी जगह आदमी बना दिये। एक तरह से जनरल काउन्सिल बना दी। दुसरे मैनेजिंग डायरेक्टर का खर्चा बढ़ गया फिर एक बोर्ड बना दिया जिस मे 15 आदमी होंगे जिस परपज को

लेकर चल रहे हैं वह देखें क्या परपज था। और आप क्या करने जा रहे है। पब्लिक अकाउन्टस कमेटी ने क्या कहा था और आप क्या करने जा रहे हैं, जरा इस को देखिये क्या सिफारिश है पब्लिक अकाउन्टस कमेटी की और किस तरह से पब्लिक अकाउन्टस कमेटी ने क्या राय दी थी :

"The organisation of societies seems to have proceeded on the basis of what the Reserve Bank has aptly characterised as a 'target approach' to the whole movement. This has resulted in accelerated organisation of a number of cooperative societies without adequate investigation about their viability. In consequence, a number of societies set up in various sectors are either moribund or are not functioning affectively. As examples may be cited, the marketing sector where 25 per cent of the societies are doing no business, or the processing sector, where capacity installed has not been gainfully utilised in several fields like paddy processing, cotton ginning etc. The same problems of gainful utilisation is faced by cooperative godowns also."

Then is says:

"Vested interests have secured a hold on a number of societies, which they are turning to their advantage. It is essential that all the maladies should be diagnosed and effective legislative and administrative sanctions applied against them in the interests of sound and healthy growth of the movement."

It adds:

"The Committee also consider it important that steps should be taken to 'de-officialise' the cooperative movement, which is essentially a voluntary activity."

शास्त्री जी ने कहा है कि सारे अफसर मुकरर कर दिए गए हैं। यह ठीक बात है। एन सी० डी० सी० का सारा आर्गेनाइजेशन आफिशल हो गया है। कमेटी ने इसके बारे में क्या कहा था और आप किस तरह से उसको रख रहे हैं :—

"The Committee also consider it important that steps should be taken to 'de-officialise' the cooperative movement. which is essentially a voluntary activity. There is at present a full-fledged Department of Cooperation under Government, apart from another official organisation like National Cooperative Development Corporation. The proliferation of official agencies is not in the Committee's opinion conducive to the 'de-officialisation' of the cooperative movement. Many of the functions of the Central Warehousing Corporation, State Warehousing Corporations and the National Cooperative Development Corporation are common, e.g., setting up of godowns, cold storages, purchase, sale, storage and distribution of agricultural produce, seeds, fertilisers etc. There are also Primary Credit Societies, Central Cooperative Banks etc. some of which seem to be working at cross purpose. It is in this context that the Committee have suggested a reconsideration of the need for an organisation like the National Cooperative Development Corporation, which, as an institution, has not to any considerable extent succeeded in securing the objectives for which it was set up."

What is the purpose of it? Whether these reports are ever discussed on the floor of the House or not, or it is that you take some reports which are favourable to the Government into consideration and say, it is all right.

This is the Report of the Expert Committee on the National Cooperative Development Córporation. The question is: Should Central assistance be routed through the N.C.D.C.? It says:

"The existing procedure leaves no discretion to the N.C.D.C. to alter the amounts of such assistance or vary the pattern of assistance or

[श्री मूल चन्द डागा]

determine the individual programmes to which this assistance should flow. In this situation, the N.C.D.C.'s role is more in the nature of a pay office of the Central Government for disbursement of central assistance to State Government than that of an agency for financing programmes sponsored and promoted by it."

This is the work of the N C.D.C.

कोम्रोप्रेटिव मूवमेंट सेवेंथ शैड्यूल में म्राती है म्रौर यह स्टेट सबजेक्ट है। म्रापका काम सिर्फ एकाउंट्स डिसबर्स करना है। वह भी म्रनईवन हुम्रा है। यह म्रोल्ड कमेटी की रिपोर्ट है। काम सैटिसफैक्ट्री नही रहा है।

Then it says:

"The N.C.D.C. is merely a channel for disbursing certain Central assistance to the State Governments which are entitled to such assistance on the basis of a predetermined formula. In these circumstances, there is no advantage in routing Central assistance for State plan schemes through the N C.D.C. ....

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Why don't you make your point? You go on reading.

SHRI M. C DAGA: This is the Report on the National Cooperative Development Corporation. It says that the money is not disbursed properly. There is an uneven disbursal of money.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You make your point without giving long quotations.

SHRI M. C. DAGA: This is mentioned in the Report.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Then. you make a suggestion that the Minister should re-read the Report.

SHRI M. C. DAGA: It says:

"The Committee would like Government to remit the foregoing consideration for detailed expert study and come to a decision on the necessity for the continuance of the National Cooperative Development Corporation."

This is the point which was referred to the Expert Committee and they have given the Report. इस सब के बावजूद भी आप कह रहे है कि यूजफुल बाडी है। मैं आप से जानना चाहता हू कि इस का जो एडमिनिस्ट्रेटिव खर्चा है वह कितना है ? 1968 मे कितना था और अब कितना है ? आप लखो मे अपने खर्चे को बढ़ाना चाहते है ? क्यो आप ऐसा करना चाहते है ?

Then you hold a meeting of the General Council consisting of 51 members. Now you have said that you can call as many meetings as you like If you consider the expenditure involved, it will run to thousands and thousands of rupees

एन०सी०डी०सी० का परपज क्या है ? कोम्रोप्रेटिव्ज स्टेट सैक्टर मे म्राती है। क्या म्राप बता सकते है कि एन०सी०डी०सी० ने जा करके किसी पर्टिकुलर सोसाइटी को एग्जामिन किया है, उसकी जाच पडताल की है ? कमेटी म्रपनी रिपोर्ट में म्रागे क्या कहती है

"The Committee find that the progress of cooperative movement in the country has been very uneven. The movement has yet to strike firm roots in places like Rajasthan, Bihar and Orissa which are comparatively less developed in this regard than areas like Maharashtra, Gujarat and Punjab."

सोसाइटीज की हालत भी क्या है ? वही है जो पहले थी। रिजनल इम्बलेंसिस बढ़े हैं। सोसाइटीज को फाइनेंस करने का कई इंस्टीट्यूशंज हैं। एग्रिकलचरल रिफाइनेंस कारपोरेशन है तथा दूसरी कई स्कीमें चलती हैं। सब से उनको पैसा मिलता है। बैंक्स भी यह कहते हैं :—

"During the year ended upto 1973, 1,970 cooperative societies in 55 districts were extended short term finance to the tune of Rs. 9 crores."

फाइनेंस उनको करने के लिए एन सी डी सी का इतना बड़ा आफिस रखना क्या इससे ही जो परपज है वह अचीव हो जाएगा ? यह बात समझ में नहीं आई है।

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER; Let the Minister answer. You have made the point.

SHRI M. C. DAGA: I will finish, Sir. I have submitted some amendments. I want to say one or two words more. Now who can become President or Vice President? Only those people who have knowledge about it should become President or Vice President. That is why, I have suggested inclusion of the following after 'Vice President' in Clause 4:

"having special knowledge or, or practical experience in agricultural cooperative development."

Only such person should be nominated as President or Vice president.

इस सबके बारे में आपने रूल्ज एण्ड रेग्गुलेशंज प्रेसक्राइब नहीं किए हैं। किस तरह से लिए जाएंगे ? आपने कोई माइंड एप्लाई किया हो ऐसा नहीं लगता है। एक ही सोर्स से हो सके तो उनको पैसा मिले। उन पर चैक हो। अगर ऐसा नहीं होता है तो इसका कोई फायदा नहीं होने वाला है।

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श्री ओंकार लाल बेरवा (कोटा) : हमारे साथी राजस्थान के श्री मूल चन्द डागा ने जो कुछ कहा है उससे मैं सर्वथा सहमत नहीं हूं, कुछ बातों में तो मैं सहमत हूं, कुछ में नहीं हूं। उन्होंने कहा है कि 51 मेम्बर बहुत ज्यादा हैं। मैं समझता हूं कि इनकी संख्या जितनी कम हो सके की जानी चाहिए। उनके इस संशोधन का मैं स्वागत करता हूं।

आपने इस बिल के उद्देश्यों और कारणों में कहा है :

राष्ट्रीय सहकारी विकास निगम के कार्यकलाप का विस्तार समाज के कमजोर वर्ग की सहायता करने के लिए विशेष रूप से तैयार किए गए सहकारी डेरी, कुक्कुट पालन और मछली पालन कार्यक्रमों पर भी होना चाहिए। निगम के कार्यकलाप में जन-जातीय लोगों की, उनके लिए विशेष रूप के बनाई गई समुचित सहकारी संस्थाओं की मार्फत गौण वन उत्पादो के संग्रहण प्रसंस्करण और क्रय विक्रय में मदद करना भी सम्मिलित हो सकता है।

कहा जाता है कि कमजोर वर्ग की मदद करने के लिए इस निगम के कार्य-कलापों का विकास और प्रसार किया जा रहा है। लेकिन हम ने देखा है कि जंगल के कुछ अनपढ़ भीलों के नाम से सहकारी संस्था बना दी जाती है और कुछ चालाक लोग नेता बन कर सारा रुपया खा जाते हैं, जब कि उन गरीब लोगों को कुछ पता ही नहीं होता है।

उदाहरण के लिए राजस्थान में किशन-गंज-शाहाबाद में कुछ गरीब भीलों के नाम से एक सहकारी संस्था बनाई गई और गूंद और शहद का ठेका लिया गया। मार्केट में शहद की हांडी 102 रुपये पर बेची गई, लेकिन भीलों

[श्री ओंकार लाल बेरवा]

को केवल 51 रुपये के हिसाब से पेमेंट किया गया, और उस का भी हिसाब पूरा नहीं रखा गया। इसी तरह बाजार में दस, बारह आने गूंद बेची गई, लेकिन उन भीलों को सिर्फ़ छः या आठ आने रोज की मजदूरी दी गई। कुछ लोग उस सहकारी संस्था के पदाधिकारी बन कर सब पैसा खा गये।

इसी तरह उदयपुर में तेंदू के पत्तों के लिए जो सहकारी समिति बनाई गई, उस में भी यही घोटाला है।

आखिर सहकारी समितियां कामयाब क्यों नहीं हो रही हैं और वे क्यों घाटे में जा रही हैं? कुछ लोग नेता बन कर सारा पैसा खा जाते हैं। वे लोग भीलों को ले कर कलक्ट्री पर प्रदर्शन करते हैं कि उन्हें पैसा मिलना चाहिए, और पैसा मिलने पर उस को खा जाते हैं। मध्य प्रदेश में आदिवासियों के लिए मकान बनाने के लिए सहकारी समिति बनाई गई और उस को दस लाख रुपये दिये गये। कुछ लोग वह रुपया भी खा गये।

परसों के पेपर में आया है कि राजस्थान के चीफ़ मिनिस्टर, श्री हरदेव जोशी, ने कहा है कि सहकारी समितियों और खाद्य निगम दोनों ने मिल कर राजस्थान की खाद्य स्थिति को बिगाड़ दिया है। उन का कहना है कि अगर सहकारी समितियां सहयोग करतीं, तो राजस्थान की खाद्य स्थिति न बिगड़ती।

इस बिल में खाद और बीज देने की बात कही गई है। सहकारी समितियों के मेम्बरों से जो चन्दा ले लिया जाता है, उस का कोई हिसाब नहीं रहता है। उन को सौ रुपये में खाद की दो बोरियां दी जाती हैं, लेकिन छः महीने बाद सूद सहित वह पैसा उनसे वसूल कर लिया जाता है। अगर बीज के लिए कहा जाये, तो जवाब दिया जाता है कि बीज के लिए राजस्थान गवर्नमेंट से आर्डर नहीं आया है, या केन्द्रीय सरकार ने पैसा नहीं दिया है, इस लिए हम बीज उधार नहीं देंगे। जब व्यापारी और सहकारी समितियां दोनों खाद देने से इन्कार करते हैं, तो जमीन खाली पड़ी रह जाती है। बैलों के लिए एक हजार रुपये की जरूरत होती है। किसान सहकारी समिति के दफ्तर के चक्कर काटता रहता है, लेकिन सीजन गुजर जाने पर भी उस को कर्जा नहीं मिलता है।

सरकार इस निगम के कार्य-कलापों का प्रसार करने जा रही है और उस को अधिक पावर दे रही है, लेकिन उसको सहकारी समितियों के कार्य की जांच करनी चाहिए।

जहां तक ठेकों का सम्बन्ध है, एक व्यक्ति कुछ लोगों के नाम से सहकारी समिति बना कर पी० डबलू० डी० और सी० पी० डबलू० डी० से ठेके ले लेता है। सहकारी समिति के नाते उसको कोई सिक्युरिटी भी जमा नहीं करनी पड़ती है। सरकार को इस मामले की भी जांच करनी चाहिए।

इन सहकारी समितियों से आदिवासियों और हरिजनों का कोई विकास नहीं हुआ है। कुक्कुट पालन और मछली पालन की बात कही जाती है, लेकिन मनुष्य पालन नहीं हो रहा है। मै चाहता हूं कि निगम के पिछले कार्य-कलापों की जांच की जाये। मै इस बात का समर्थन करता हूं कि सहकारी समितियों का विकास होना चाहिए, और कमजोर वर्गों की सहायता करनी चाहिए, लेकिन जो लोग पैसा खा कर बठें हैं, उन से वह पैसा निकलवाया जाये।

मैं इस विधेयक का समर्थन करता हूं।

श्री रामकंवर (टोंक): उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, राष्ट्रीय सहकारी विकास निगम अधिनियम में जो संशोधन किये जा रहे हैं

उनका मैं समर्थन करता हूं। लेकिन मैं निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि सहकारी समितियों की जो योजना बनाई गई थी, उस का यही उद्देश्य था —और आज भी मंत्री महोदय ने कहा है— कि निम्न वर्ग के लोगों का ज्यादा से ज्यादा लाभ पहुंचाया जाये। मैं एग्रीकल्चर की कन-सल्टेटिव कमेटी और इस सदन में कई दफा कह चुका हू कि कृषि सहकारी समितियों के नाम से जो जमीनें एलाट का गई और हरिजनों के मकान बनाने के लिए राजस्थान और अन्य प्रान्तों में जो सहकारी समितियां बनाई गई, उन के पैसे का कोई ठिकाना नही है और तकावी देने की कोई व्यवस्था नही है, हालांकि मेम्बरों के तीन तीन सौ रुपये खर्च हो गये हैं। जब तक सरकार सहकारी समितियों पर पूरी तरह से नियंत्रण नही रखेगी, तब तक इस मे कभी सफलता नही मिलेगी। गरीब लोगो को कई प्रकार के प्रलोभन और आश्वासन दिये जाते है, लेकिन उन को कोई लाभ नही पहुचता है। इसी लिए वे इन सहकारी समितियों के नजदीक भी नही आते है।

कृषि सहकारी समितियों के नाम से जो जमीनें एलाट की गई है, वे टेम्पोरेरी तौर पर दस पन्द्रह साल के लिए दी गई है। सरकार को जाच करनी चाहिए कि कहा उन को जमीनें दी गई है। इस के अलावा कुए खुदवाने के लिए रुपया देना चाहिए। मंत्री महोदय जानते होगे कि जितनी भी सहकारी समितियां बनी है, उन मे कितने गरीब लोग है। उन में जो लोग शामिल हुए है, वे सब पैसे वाले है।

इस कानून मे ऐसा संशोधन करना चाहिए जिस से गरीब लोगो को फायदा हो। सरकार जिन लोगो के हित के लिए यह कानून बनाती है, उन को ज्यादा से ज्यादा लाभ होना चाहिए।

श्री राम देव सिंह (महाराज गंज) उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मंत्री महोदय एन० सी० डी० सी० एक्ट मे जो संशोधन ले कर आए हैं मैं उसका स्वागत करता हू। इस बारे मे कई तरह की आलोचनायें हुई हैं। दुर्भाग्य यह है कि, हम कोआपरेटिव मूवमेंट को समझने का प्रयास नही करते हैं और हम केवल बुराइयों को देखते हैं। हमारा विश्वास है कि एक पिछड़े हुए, अभावग्रस्त और साधनहीन देश में साधन जुटाने के लिए कोआपरेटिव मूवमेंट को छोड़ कर दूसरा कोई माध्यम नहीं हो सकता है।

जैसा कि कई सदस्यों ने कहा है, यह ठीक कि इस मूवमेंट मे वीकर सैक्शन्ज ने प्रवेश नही किया है। लेकिन एक कोआपरेटर होने के नाते मैं जानता हू कि अब यह मूवमेंट बड़ी तेजी से वीकर सैक्शन्ज में प्रवेश कर रहा है और हरिजनो की कोआपरेटिव सोसायटियां बन रही हैं, मछली पालने वालों की सोसायटियां बन रही हैं। आप देखेंगे रिक्सा चलाने वाले जो सब से वीकर सैक्शन के होते है, उन की समितियां बन रही हैं और अब यह मूवमेंट वीकर सैक्शन मे प्रवेश कर रहा है। इस मूवमेंट को हमे हर तरह से सहयोग देना चाहिए। कुछ त्रुटियां हैं, कुछ विकृतियां हैं जिन्हे दूर किया जा सकता है अगर हम उस मे लगे, उसे समझे, उस आन्दोलन को बल दे तो।

मुझे अधिक कुछ नही कहना है। केवल इतना ही कहना है कि किसी दिन रूस मे लेनिन ने कहा था कि अगर रूस में कम्युनिज्म आएगा तो कम्यून उसका आधार होगा और मैं यह कहना चाहता हू कि अगर इस देश में प्रजातान्त्रिक समाजवाद को आना है तो उस का आधार इस देश का यह कोआपरेटिव मूवमेंट होगा। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से एक ही अपील करूंगा कि सहकारी संस्थाओं मे नामजदगी की जो प्रथा है उस प्रथा को कम करे, समाप्त कर दे तो इस मूवमेंट के लिए अत्युत्तम बात होगी।

इन्ही शब्दो के साथ मै इस बिल का समर्थन करता हू।

SHRI ANANTRAO PATIL: (Khed) Mr. Depuay-Speaker, Sir, I rise to support this Bill. This is a small measure which seeks to amend the N.C.D.C. Act of 1962. The objective is to broad-base the activities and the constitution of the NCDC and to

[Shri Anant Rao Patil]

diversify the source of funds in the light of the recommendations of the Committee.

In pursuance of the observations by the Public Accounts Committee Government had appointed an expert Committee to examine the working and the policies and programmes of the N.C.D.C. The main objective of the Act was to plan promote and finance the programmes of collecting processing and marketing of the agricultural produce and other commodities. But, these are not found sufficient because this does not help the weaker sections of the society as well as the tribal people. So, the Committee thought and found it necessary to broad-base the activities of the NCDC. They have recommended to include, in the activities the poultry, fishery, dairy as well as collection of forest produce and processing and marketing the same. This is a very welcome feature of the recommendation. But, in our country, as my friends from Rajasthan have observed, the cooperative movement could not grow and make much progress in all States. The public workers perhaps did not take interest in the respective States. Take the example of the farmers, the weaker sections of the society—the tribals—in any part of the country. Advancement of loans by societies or by any agency of the cooperative in not going to help the farmer to improve his cerdition. Take, for example, my constituency which comprises hilly tracts. There are people from weaker sections of the society—the tribal people. There are no means of subsistence profession or vocation. The farmers there and tribals, can take to dairying, animal rearing and milching of cows. They can give the milk to the cooperative societies to be sent to the big towns and cities. Similarly, from the jungles they can collect the forest produce such as *Airida* or gum of honey from which dyestuffs can be produced. That is not being done. The *banias* or traders do not pay money to the tribals for the produce that they collect. Instead, the same is being sent to the big cities and towns. The cooperative society does not come forward to help the tribals or farmers for processing the produce. The NCDC also does not care for them. I want to emphasise this. We do not take proper care to see that whatever policies or programmes are taken in hand are implemented. They do not pay attention to it at all. So, the constitution of the NCDC has to be broadbased. Formerly there were a number of officials and a number of non-officials only. But, there were no representatives of the cooperative societies or representatives of the State Government and others who know something about the cooperative movement. I want only those who have got experience in the cooperative movement to be represented on the NCDC. They are forming general council and the board of management I would request the hon. Minister that he should make use of the experience the intellect, and study of the persons concerned in the future set-up of the National Co-operative Development Corporation.

With these remarks, I support the Bill

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now, the hon. Minister.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: You can call me now and I would not insist on speaking during the third reading

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE: I am thankful to the hon. Members who have participated in the debate. Shri Ramdeo Singh and Shri Aanat Rao Patil who spoke at the fag end of the debate made some observations which were very relevant and I think theirs were very well informed observations. I am sorry to say that perhaps many of the Members did not get sufficient time to look into the provisions of the Bill, and I would have very much welcomed informed criticism and informed observations All the same, I am thankful to the hon. Members for making some broad suggestions in regard to the co-operative movement. But I would like to submit at this stage that the National Co-operative Development Corporation is

not a co-operative society but it is an instrument evolved by the Government of India for helping the State Government in regard to the development of the co-operative movement. Therefore, one should not confuse this organisation with the co-operative movement. The Natioal Co-operative Development Corporation is a very vital link with the co-operative movement and it is an effective instrument for helping the co-operative movement.

This House in its wisdom passed the original Bill in 1962. What is now being done is only to amend the Act. The basic principles and framework have been accepted. Perhaps during the last session or the session prior to that, we had brought forward an amending Bill to include the State of Jammu and Kashmir within the purview of the parent Act, and this House had approved of that amendment and included Jammu and Kashmir within the scope of the Act.

In the meanwhile, the Public Accounts Committee of the Fourth Lok Sabha, as I mentioned earlier in my preliminary observations, went into some of the problems of the National Co-operative Development Corporation and in its wisdom, this learned body made some observations and raised the question why there be a co-operative department as well as the Nationtal Co-operative Development Corporation and whether it was not duplication and whether it was necessary at all. In their wisdom they made a very wide observation. They did not go into merits of the case but they suggested or recommended to the Government of India that an expert body should be appointed to look into the functioning of the National Co-operative Development Corporation, and they should also find out whether it is desirable to have such a body and whether it needs to be abolished or it needs to be strengthened and so on. Basing themselves on these observations of the PAC, the Government of India appointed an expert committee under Shri Venkatappaiah who was then a Member of the Planning Commission and who is a very well known and knowledgeable person not only in the field of economics but in the field of co-operatives. This committee went into the problems. I need not elaborate in this very much, thought I have voluminous material with me, because I would not like to take the time of the House.

But this committee has cited a number of instances and it has given an assessment of how the NCDC has been helping the States Government. For instance, they have referred to the Dantwala Committee on co-operative marketing in 1966, which had made some very important observations. They also had had an opportunity to make an assessment of the functioning of the NCDC and they said:

> "We are glad to observe that recently even within the limited resources available with it, the corporation has embarked on several new schemes from out of its own funds outside the State Plan schemes. These measures have given impetus to the State Governments to hasten the pace of development of co-operative marketing and processing....
>
> Again, the corporation's decision to subsidise the entire cost has led to the establishment of a promotional and assessment cell in most of the appex marketing federations within a short period. These instances prove that the corporation, given suitable assistance, can play a useful role in promoting the development of co-operative marketing and processing.".

Then, the Administrative Reforms Commission had also gone into the problems of the NCDC, and they had also cited a number of instances and praised the functioning of the NCDC. Then in 1968 the Working Group on Co-operation of the ARC also appreciated the functioning of the NCDC. Along with that, the All India Rural Credit Review Committee went into its functioning in 1969. They also appreciated the role of the NCDC. This Committee based on its own study

[Shri Annasaheb P. Shinde]

also made a recommendation to the Government of India that there is not only need for NCDC, but Government should really give all support to it and it should be strengthened and broad-based.

I do not know whether Shri Daga had time to go through the details of the report. Members are very busy sometimes. The Expert Committee made a very strong recommendation to the Government of India...

SHRI M. C. DAGA: If he reads certain chapters, he would find it for himself.

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE: Public Accounts Committee reports.

SHRI M. C. DAGA: Not the PAC report. I was not talking of that.

SHRI ANNASHEB P. SHINDE: Even then, he has missed the main mark. The main recommendation of this Committee was that this organisation should be strengthened.

SHRI M. C. DAGA: The main point made was whether it should remain as a pay office to disburse amounts through the States or it should watch the activities of the societies.

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE: I listened to him patiently; let him now do likewise.

SHRI M. C. DAGA: He is telling me that I have read some of the chapters of this report.

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE: First of all, I would like to tell him that as far as the routing of the funds is concerned, the PAC had made some observations and this Committee also upheld those observations, that the routing of normal plan funds to the State Governments should not be done through NCDC. I feel it should be done directly by the Government of India. This recommendations has been accepted by Government. So there is no question of plan funds being routed to the State Governments through NCDC now. So this has been accepted.

What I was submitting was that the main recommendation of this Committee was that we should strengthen and broadbase it. After examining it in detail, the Government of India came to the conclusion that it is necessary to strength this organisation and broadbase it. The Committee, of course, made a recommendation that this body should consist of 45 members. When we in the Government of India examined it in detail we thought that if this body is to be a really representative body, other interest should also be included in it. So we came to the conclusion that a General Council of 51 members should be there.

A number of hon. members made the point that all these are nominations. I do not know how hon. members came to this conclusion. As I said, earlier, this is an instrument evolved by the Government of India for helping State Governments But are these people nominated persons? Would the Chairman of the National Co-operative Union of India be a nominated person? He is an elected person in that organisation. Then the Chairman of the National Agricultural Co-operative Marketing Federation, the Chairman of the National Federation of Co-operative sugar factories, the Chairman of the All-India Federation of Co-operative Spinning Mills, the Chairman of the All India State Co-operative Banks' Federation—all these persons are elected persons.

SHRI M. C. DAGA: Please let us know how many out of the 51 members are elected.

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE: These details are given there Please read the law. Eleven members are to be nominated by the Central Government from the Chairman of State level. Co-operative Federations. These are all elected persons. So I

would like to dispel the impression of hon. members that they are nominated persons. All these details are given in the Bill itself. Hon. members can have a fresh look into it.

SHRI P. G. MAVALANKAR (Ahmedabad): Out of the 51 members, how many are elected?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE: That will have to be calculated. I think it will come to 23-24. We can calculate. This is not a co-operative society. This is an instrument of the Government of India.

The second difficulty came that if this is to be a composite body it should be representative of the State Governments and along with non-officials there should be representatives of banking institutions. There is the Reserve Bank of India. Many of these organisations are not technically official organisations. It may be said that the RBI is an official organisation. But you know the relationship of the RBI with the co-operative movement. We know it plays a very important role there. Then there is the State Bank of India and now there is the Food Corporation because the co-operative movement is involved in marketing of foodgrains. So, we thought that a representative of the Food Corporation should also be there; then we thought that a representative of the Central Warehousing Corporation should also be there. All those who are concerned with the co-operative movement have been included in this. Therefore, the inference that this is mainly an official body will not be a correct inference as far as the composition is concerned.

Then, some observations have been made by the hon. Member, Shri Ramavatar Shastri. He said that there should be some scope for nominating members who are really knowledageable and who know something about the co-operative movement. For instance, he mentioned the name of Dr. Z. A. Ahmed. I have great respect for him; he is a very knowledgeable person. Of course we are not discussing personalities here. What is important is whether there is provision to include some experts in such a body. There is a specific clause here mentioning "four members representing persons having special knowledge or practical experience in agricultural and co-operative development." This is in addition to the representatives of the State Federations and the national level federation. That means there is a provision to include those who are directly representing the co-operative movement and those who are elected representatives of the co-operative movement, and at the same time, there is provision for including those who have highly specialised and expert knowledge. All these aspects have been taken into consideration while constituting the body.

An observation has been made that there should be a non-official either as President or Chairman. As I said, this is a Government instrument. It should not be mixed up with co-operative unions like the national co-operative unions. There, the Government of India's position is very clear. We wanted co-operative organisations without any Government interference. We want that co-operative organizations should be led by non-officials. But this is a Government instrument for helping the State Governments. Therefore, there is a provision. It is not a new one. The present set-up is this. The Agriculture Minister happens to be the Chairman and the other Minister of state who is in charge of this portfolio works as the Chairman of the Executive Committee. Now, only the designation has been changed: President and Vice-President. The Minister and the Minister of State would be the President and the Vice-President.

Then, our colleague Shri Daga said that we are appointing a Managing Director. We are not appointing a Managing Director. Already the post of Secretary is there. It was not properly understood. But this is an important organisation for helping the

[Shri Annasaheb P. Shinde]

State Governments. We are only changing the nomenclature; instead of "Secretary", we are saying "Managing Director.' So, there is no question of additional expenditure.

Another observation was made. I wish there was some truth in that criticism, because I am a person who will accept the critiism if there had been some truth in it. It has been said that there is too muh of unnecessary expenditure involved. I would like to say that the expenditure of the Corporation all along during the last three years has been less than one per cent. Actually, I have got the figures from 1968-69 onwards. They are, 0.93, 0.81 0.97, 0.90 and so on. That means less than one per cent. It is expected that at least such a body may have two meetings in a year, but what does it matter? I know that the Indian co-operative movement has not, unfortunately, fared well in many parts of our country. I accept that criticism of Shri Daga. In many parts of our country, the movement remains stagnant; it is just domant; it is docile. It is not functioning well. Therefore, our approach is to see that the movement is really activised and special emphasis is laid in respect of the backward areas and the necessary efforts are made. But ultimately I would appeal to the good sense of the hon. Members: the co-operative movement is a non-official movement. There are limtations for official agencies for developing it. It is for you all and those people who are representing public opinion to give the necessary encouragement and non-official leadership and see that the co-operative movement comes up in the backward areas.

The other important aspect of this Bill is that so far the National Co-operative Development Corporation was helping mainly the co-operatives connected with agriculture; agricultural processes agricultural marketing credit, etc. Now, it has been decided that many sections of our society, particularly the weaker sections who are engaged in fisheries, poultry, animal husbandry, etc., are covered. Some of these activities were not covered by the help and assistance which the NCDC was giving to the State Governments in the past. It has now been decided that the activities which are carried on by the weaker sections of society like fisheries, diarying, animal husbandry, collection of forest produce, etc., which are pursued mostly by the tribals and others, should be made eligible for assistance of the NCDC to the State Governments.

Therefore, looking to the general framework of the Bill I do not think there is anything controversial at all in this Bill.

श्री विभूति मिश्र (मोतिहारी): दस आदमी मिलकर कोआपरेटिव बनाते है, 11वां या 12वा आदमी अगर मेम्बर बनना चाहता है तो उसको मेम्बर बनने नही देते है इसलिए आप बताये कैसे कोआपरेटिव का कोई मेम्बर होगा, कैसे वीकर सैक्शन उसमें जायेंगे और जिसके हाथ में कोआपरेटिव है, जो उसका सेक्रेटरी है वह उसका मास्टर हो जाता है, वह और लोगो को घुसने नहीं देता है—इसका इलाज क्या है ?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE: I know that our senior colleague and Parliamentarian Shri Bibhuti Mishra has strong feelings. He has been telling me that in some parts of the country the cooperative movement is dominated by vested interests. They are not broad-based. It is agreed on all hands that this should not be so and they should be democratic and they should be broad-based. These are the principles which are acceptable hundred percent to the Government of India. We do not support small societies which are formed by a handful of persons or family societies or cooperatives of narrow groups. We want them to be broad-based and democratic, as I said before.

According to our Constitution, co-operation is a State subject and that is the forum where it should be agitated. If Shri Bibhuti Mishra wants the opinion of the Government of India I have made it clear and I say it again that the co-operative movemen should be really broad-based and should express the aspirations of the common people in this country. Therefore, my advice to the State Governments would be to amend the law. We shall give them the necessary support.... (*Interruption*). It is not a matter of laughter.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour): I am only thinking about the co-operatives in the sugar sector and their prosperity at the cost of the consumers.

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE: I will educate you on that also.

SHRI P. G. MAVALANKAR: Co-operation is a State subject. None the less he has come with a Bill to amend the National Co-operative Development Act. While helping the States, the Government of India should see to it that the co-operative movement in the States is conducted on genuine co-operative lines.

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE: There are no two opinions on that We have been having conferences of the Ministers of Co-operation where these basic principles were discussed and we shall again repeat it. On this there can be no two opinion. The scope of the Act is being enlarged so that we will be in a position to help the national federations and some State federations and some multi-unit co-operatives whose area of operation is more than one State. Such high level organisations will be eligible for receiving assistance from the Government.

SHRI M. C. DAGA: Can the NCDC watch the activities of co-operatives working in the States or not? Is it its function or not?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE: First of all we do not extend direct assistance to the co-operatives. We pass on assistance to them through the State Governments but we have been very closely watching their activities....(*Interruptions*). We give advice to the State Governments. It is really a question of developing awareness in the non-official agencies to get the necessary support from the State Governments to the co-operative movement.

I am again thankful to the hon. Members for the general support they have given to the provisions of this Bill. I have seen some of the notice of amendments which the hon. Members have given. We can discuss them at the appropriate moment. Since the broad provisions of the Bill are acceptable to all sections of the House, I hope they will give unanimous support to this Bill.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

> "That the Bill further to amend the National Copperative Development Corporation Act 1962, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: We will now take up clause by clause consideration. To clause 2 there is an amendment by Shri Ramavatar Shastri. Is he moving it?

Clause 2—(*Substitution of long title*)

SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI: I beg to move:

Page 1, line 16,—

after "foodstuffs" *insert*—

",poultry and piggery feed" (16)

मेरा संशोधन बहुत मामूली है। पता नहीं आपने इस में कुक्कुट पालन (मुर्गी पालन) और मछली पालन की बात तो की है लेकिन सुअर पालन को आपने क्यों छोड़ दिया है।

15.57 hrs.

[SHRI VASANT SATHE *in the Chair.*]

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Mr. Chairman, I notice the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs loudly clapping, perhaps with some motives. We do not want you to be anything but impartial. Shri Raghu Ramaiah should remember that you are a friend of ours too.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have noted that you also clapped.

श्री रामावतार शास्त्री : मैं ने जो संशोधन पेश किया है उस का मतलब सिर्फ इतना ही है कि मुर्गी पालन के बाद या उन के लिए खाद्य के बाद आप सुअर –'पिगरी'– के लिए खाद्य की व्यवस्था भी करें यानी सुअर लफ्ज़ को भी जोड़ दें क्योंकि हमारे मुल्क में पिगरी को हम ने उठाया नही है । हम लोग एक कमेटी के सिलसिले मे घूम रहे थे, सरकारी फार्म देखने के लिए भी गए तो उसके उद्देश्य मे लिखा हुआ था कि पिगरी भी कही कही हम डेवलप कर रहे है लेकिन इस में आपने कही भी उसके लिए स्थान नही रखा है । इस से लगता है कि उसके विकास की तरफ सरकार ध्यान नही देती । इसलिए मेरा कहना है कि उस को भी आप जोडे । और जहां पर मांस की बात आती है, अंग्रेजी में जिसे 'पोर्क' कहते हैं और हिन्दी मे सुअर का मांस कहते है और हमारे देश मे बहुत से लोग है जो उस का इस्तेमाल करते हैं, लेकिन वह बात भी वहा नही है इसलिए उस को भी जोड़े । यही मेरे दो अमेन्डमेन्ट्स हैं । मै जानना चाहूंगा कि आपने इसको क्यों छोड़ा है ? पर्पजली, जानबूझ कर इसको नहीं रखा है या आपके दिमाग से यह बात निकल गई—क्या वजह है हम उसको जानना चाहते हैं । क्या वजह है आप पिगरी के डेवलपमेन्ट की बात नहीं करना चाहते हैं, क्यों आपने इस बिल में उसकी व्यवस्था नही की है ? अगर यह बात आपके दिमाग से खिसक कर गई है तो मेहरबानी कर के मेरे इन संशोधनों को स्वीकार कर लिए ताकि देश मे इस का भी विकास हो सके क्योंकि इसका विकास करने से कमजोर वर्गों के लोगों को ही फायदा होगा । कौन लोग सुअर का पालन करते है वह आप जानते ही है, उस को बताने की जरूरत नही है । वे समाज के बड़े कमजोर वर्ग के लोग है । उनकी उन्नति के रास्ते को आप क्यो बन्द करना चाहते है । सगठित रूप से इस चीज का विकास होना चाहिए और सरकार उस मे भी सहायक बने । इसलिए मैं चाहता हूं कि मंत्री जी मेरे इन सशोधनों को स्वीकार करें । यदि आप इस को स्वीकार नही करना चाहते है तो फिर उसका कारण क्या है ?

16 hrs.

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE: I have no difference of opinion with Shri Shastriji in regard to the principles But I hope, he will appreciate, if the principles or the points which have been made are already a part of the present statute, whether there is a need of those amendments.

First of all, he has suggested that the words "poultry and piggery feed" should be added. In the original Act itself, it is stated "cattle fodder including oil cakes and other concentrates". "Cattle fodder" means feed for poultry, feed for piggery. It includes that also It is a comprehensive provision. There is already a provision in the Bill itself.

The other thing he suggested is, after "meat", insert "including pork". In the Bill itself, it is stated, "meet whether fresh, frozen, dried or preserved;". "Meat" includes pork also. "Meat" does not mean only goat meat or sheep meat. In includes meat of all cattle.

So, these provisions are already a part of the present statute. I hope, he will appreciate that there is no need of these amendments. There is no difference of opinion on the principles. There are already part of the present statute. I would request him to withdraw the amendment.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Is he withdrawing it?

SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI: Yes

Amendment No. 16 was, by leave, withdrawn.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That Clause 2 stand part of the Bill".

The motion was adopted.

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Clause 3. There is an amendment by Shri Ramavatar Shastri.

SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI: I am not moving it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That Clause 3 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 3 was added to the Bill.

Clause 4—(*Amendment of section* 3).

SHRI M C. DAGA (Pali): I beg to move:

Page 3, line 7,—

after "Vice-President," *insert*—

"having special knowledge of, or practical experience in agricultural co-operative development," (6).

Page 3, line 9,—

for "eight" *substitute* "three" (7).

Page 3,—

omit lines 23 and 24. (8).

Page 3,—

omit lines 35 to 39. (9).

Page 3,—

Omit lines 45 to 47. (10).

Page 4, line 1,—

for "three" *substitute* "Two". (11)

Sir I made my speech but, I think, the hon. Minister has not given any reply to the question which I raised.

In Clause 4, it is stated:

"a President and a Vice-President, both to be nominated by the Central Government;"

I want to add the words, "having special knowledge of, or practical experience in agricultural co-operative development." Whom do you want to nominate? The persons who have got practical experience should be nominated. It should not be that anybody can be nominated. He must have special knowledge of, or practical experience in agricultural co-operative development. That is why I have moved this amendment.

Both President and Vice-President are to be nominated.

यह तो आप कह रहे थे कि कोआपरेटिव बेसिस पर 51 सदस्यों को नामीनेट किया है ।

Out of 51 members the General Council will have, eight members are to be nominated by the Central Government from government offices; then the Deputy Governor of the Reserve Bank is also a government employee; the Managing Director of the State Bank is also a government employee; then a member representing banks to be nominated by the Central Government; then four members representing persons having special knowledge of, or practical experience in, agricultural co-operative development, to be nominated by the Central Government.

तो यह जो आप का क्लाज है सारा का सारा इस में नौमिनेशन ही है । कौन चुना जायेगा ? पब्लिक अकाउन्ट्स कमेटी ने 41 मेम्बर्स की सिफारिश की थी और आप 51 मेम्बर्स रख रहे हैं । अब 51 की मीटिंग कसे होगी, और उसका क्या परस्थ होगा ?

[Shri M. C. Daga]

You say that co-operatives are a State subject. Then what will be the function? Will it have only one function, that is, to disburse the amount?

पब्लिक अकाउन्ट्स कमेटी ने कहा है कि जहां तक हो सके सरकारी कर्मचारी वहां पर नही होने चाहियें । डी-आफिशियलाइजेशन के बारे में लिखा है कि । कमेटी की रिपोर्ट कुछ है और आप ला कुछ रहे है और इस सदन में में बैठे हुए लोग उस को सपोर्ट कर रहे हैं । आप को 74 करोड रुपया दिया गया उसका क्या हुआ ?

I ask whether you pay that amount to the Government or not. What is the necessity of having this body when all are nominated? Then he says:

> "three members representing national level organisations engaged or interested in the promotion and development of co-operative programmes..."

Then, the managing director.

तो सारा का सारा ढाचा जो बना है यह क्या करेगा ? पब्लिक अकाउन्ट्स कमेटी ने जो सुझाव दिए हैं उस मे यह था कि डी-आफिशियलाइजेशन हो, कम से कम सरकारी आदमी हों को-आपरेटिव मूवमेंट में । तो आपका कोआपरेटिव डिपार्टमेंट क्या करता है?

What is the function of the Co-operative Department? You say that it is a State subject—co-operatives. Then why do you try to have this body with such a big General Council? Why should there be a Managing Director? Why not a Secretary? The Managing Director will receive more money? Can you tell me what will be the administrative expenses?

आप बताइये ऐडमिनिस्ट्रेशन पर कितने लाख रुपया खर्च होता है ? सरकार हर साल 10 लाख रु० देती है । आप कहते हैं कि हर एक की कोआपरेटिव अलग अलग बनी हुई है, छोटी छोटी स्कीम बनी हुई है । आप किस प्रकार की एन० सी० डी० सी० बनाना चाहते हैं ? और मैं यह नही समझ सका कि 51 आदमियो के अन्दर कितना कोरम होगा, कितने आदमी कमेटी मे बैठेंगे तब कोरम माना जायगा ? कुछ नही है । कुछ तो बताइये इस तरह से मीटिंग करेंगे और यह हमारा परपज होगा । इसीलिए मैंने यह संशोधन दिया है, और मेरा एक और संशोधन था कि

There should be only one meeting and, if it is necessary, there may be two.

Then, take this one: "There shall be a Board of Management of the Corporation..." There will be a General Council and then a Board and the Board consists of 15 members. This Board will consist of three members of the General Council to be nominated by the Central Government. All these are Members. I am not able to understand this.

दो मीटिंग जरनर्स होगी ।

Whatever the object that was visualised, was not fulfilled.

मैं एक सवाल पूछना चाहता हूं । एन० सी० डी० सी० को जो रुपया दिया है 74 करोड के करीब उस मे से कितना लोन की शक्ल मे है, कितना ग्रान्ट की शक्ल मे है और किस प्रकार से उसका रिपेमेंट होगा । आप 25—30 की एक छोटी सी बाडी बनाएं ।

So, I have given my amendments. The President and the Vice-President—they should be elected.

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE: In my main reply I have already covered many of the points. But since the hon. Member seems to be somewhat agitated and has given amendments, I would like to say that the recommendation of the Expert Committee itself was that the present NCDC's structure needs to be broad-based and the intention was, suppose the Government has to take any decision regarding helping the co-operative movement in any State, they should be advised by non-officials, other financial bodies and other concerned organizations and central agencies which are closely associated with the cooperative movement. Therefore, they have suggested that it should be a body of 45 members. The only addition the Government has made is of six more members because the intention of the Expert Committee was that everybody concerned with the cooperative movement in India should be associated with the General Council When we examined the spirit and the intention with which the Expert Committee made this recommendation, we thought that it should be desirable to include some more representatives. Whether it is to be of 45 or 51, there is not much difference.

I would just now read out with your kind permission the names. If anybody here could say that these are redundant names and these are not necessary, I am prepared to accept the argument. President and Vice-President as I have already said, they would be Ministers because this is a Government organization and not a cooperative society. Then eight members, *ex officio*, to be nominated by the Central Government from such of its Ministries dealing with economic matters as it may think fit.

SHRI M. C. DAGA: Is it mentioned here that the President and Vice-President shall be Ministers?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE: Yes, it is there in the Act itself.

Suppose, when we discuss the question of helping the cooperative movement and if the concerned Ministry's representatives are not there, then it involves a lot of red-tape and if the officers are already involved, then they understand what is the purpose of helping and if they want to raise any objection, they can do so at the meeting itself. Therefore, all the economic Ministries are involved in this.

Then, the Deputy Governor of the Reserve Bank is there. As I said earlier, the Reserve Bank is very closely associated for several decades with the co-operative movement in India and it is one of the special responsibilities laid down by the statute itself for the Reserve Bank to help the cooperative movement. Therefore, the Governor of the Reserve Bank is included. Then, the Managing Director of the State Bank. Again, the same observations which I made with regard to the Reserve Bank equally apply to the State Bank. Then, the Managing Director of the Food Corporation, the Managing Director of the Central Warehousing Corporation, the Chairman of the Industrial Finance Corporation, a member representing banks to be nominated by the Central Government—because there are other commercial and nationalised banks which also need to be represented.

I have already read out the list of the non-official organisations to be given representation the Chairman of the National Cooperative Union, the Chairman of the National Agricultural Co-operative Marketing Federation, Chairman of the National Federation of Co-operative Sugar Factories, the Chairman of the All India Federation of Co-operative Spinning Mills and the Chairman of the All India State Co-operative Banks' Federation. All these bodies.

[Shri Annasaheb P. Shinde]

are very closely associated with the co-operative movement. Their inclusion which has been done in the light of the recommendations of the Experts Committee is very desirable and I hope the hon. Member, Mr. Daga will appreciate and I hope he will not press his amendments. About expenditure, I have already said about this.

SHRI M. C. DAGA: Please excuse me for interrupting you. I have said that the NCDC has been given Rs. 74 crores or more. This is the amount given from the Central Government. I wanted to know whether the NCDC will be able to pay this back, whether it will be in a position to repay this amount. This is more now and this was Rs. 74 crores up to 1971. How will it pay back?

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE: I think there seems to be some sort of misunderstanding with the hon. Member. All the loans which are advanced by the National Cooperative Development Corporation to the State Governments are repaid except one small item of about Rs. 3 or Rs. 4 lakhs, which is pending with the Himachal Pradesh Government. That is also due to bifurcation of some areas from Punjab. Because of the dispute regarding bifurcation, verification etc. is being carried out and all the amounts and every single pie will be repaid according to the schedule. All the amounts are received back and there is no default as such. Therefore, there should not be any kind of misunderstanding in the minds of the hon. Members. Some amounts are advanced on the guarantee of the State Governments. This is the only clarification which I wanted to make. I request him not to press his amendments.

SHRI M. C. DAGA: I am not pressing my amendments. I seek leave of the House to withdraw my amendments.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Does he have the leave of the House to withdraw his amendments?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: These amendments are withdrawn, by leave of the House.

Amendments Nos. 6 to 11 were, by leave withdrawn

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now the Question is:

"That Clause 4 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 4 was added to the Bill.

Clause 5 was added to the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Do you want to move amendment to Clause 6 Mr. Daga?

SHRI M. C. DAGA: No, Sir. I do not want to move.

MR. CHAIRMAN: There are no amendments. I will put Clause 6 to vote.

The question is:

"That Clause 6 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 6 was added to the Bill.

Clause 7 was added to the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: On Clause 8 there is an amendment by Shri Ramavatar Shastri. Are you moving?

SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI: No, Sir, I am not moving it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: There are no amendments. I will put Clause 8 to vote. The question is:

"That Clause 8 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted

Clause 8 was added to the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Clause 9. Shri Daga, are you moving amendments Nos. 13, 14 and 15?

SHRI M. C. DAGA: No, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right. I will put Clause 9 to vote. The question is:

"That Clause 9 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 9 was added to the Bill.

Clause 10 was added to the Bill.

श्री पन्ना लाल बारूपाल (गंगानगर) मंत्री महोदय ने कहा है कि नेशनल फ़ेडरेशन ग्राफ़ कोग्रापरेटिव सोसायटीज़ के चेयरमैनों को इस में जोड़ा जायेगा । मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि नैशनल फ़ेडेरेशन ग्राफ़ लेबर कोग्रापरेटिव सोसायटीज़ के प्रतिनिधि को इस में रखा जायेगा या नही ।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Barupal has asked for some clarifications on this Clause.

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE: I would like to clarify his point. The Federation has not come into being. But we propose to have this Federation because, we ourselves, are supporting the Federation. Because of this law now, we shall be in a position to give financial assistance to that Federation. There should be no difficulty about that. My amendment is very simple. It is a technical one.

I move:

Page 6, line 33,—

for "debentures" *substitute*—

"bond or debentures, or both" (5)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

Page 6, line 33,—

for "debentures" *substitute*—

"bonds or debentures, or both". (5)

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That Clause 11, as amended stand part of the Bill".

The motion was adopted

Clause 11, as amended, was added to the Bill

MR. CHAIRMAN: We shall now take up clauses 12 to 16. There are no amendments to clauses 12 to 16. The question is:—

"That Clauses 12 to 16 stand part of the Bill".

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 12 to 16, were added to the Bill.

Clause 1—Short title and commencement.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I now come to clause 1. There are three amendments to Clause 1.

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE: There is a technical amendment. This Bill was drafted in the year 1973. But, since we are now in the year 1974, a slight amendment is necessary. On the advice of the Law Ministry lines 8 and 9 on page 1 have been omitted. I move:

Page 1,—

for line 4, *substitute*—

"Corporation (Amendment) Act, 1974". (2)

Page 1, line 7,—

omit "and any reference" (3)

Page 1,—

omit lines 8 and 9. (4)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

'Page 1,—

for line 4, substitute—

"Corporation (Amendment) Act, 1974". (2)

Page 1, line 7,—

omit "and any reference" (3)

Page 1,—

omit lines 8 and 9. (4)'

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That Clause 1, as amended, stand part of the Bill".

The motion was adopted.

Clause 1, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Enacting Formula

MR CHAIRMAN: I now come to Enacting Formula.

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE. I move:

Page 1, line 1,—

for "Twenty-fourth Year" substitute—

"Twenty-fifth year" (1)

MR CHAIRMAN: The question is:

Page 1, line 1,—

for "Twenty-fourth Year" substitute—

"Twenty-fifth Year". (1)

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Enacting Formula, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

The Enacting Formula, as amended, was added to the Bill.

The Title was added to the Bill.

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE: I beg to move:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed".

MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion moved:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed".

श्री पन्नालाल बारुपाल : सभापति महोदय, मंत्री महोदय ने कहा है कि नैशनल फ़ेडेरेशन के समस्त चैयरमैन भी इस में सदस्य होंगे। मैं जानना चाहता हू कि जो भी नैशनल फैडरेशन आफ लेबर एंड मल्टीपरपज़ को-आपरेटिव सोसायटीज है, क्या उन के प्रतिनिधि इस म लिये जायेंगे। मेरी राय यह है कि उन सबके प्रतिनिधि इसम रखे जाये, ताकि वे भी अपनी समस्याओ और अडचनो के बारे म अपने विचार रख सके। मुझे आशा है कि मंत्री महोदय मेरे सुझाव को स्वीकार करेगे।

SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE Unfortunately the Federation to which the hon. Member is referring is not in existence at present, and, therefore, we could not make a provision. But we have all the sympathies for the labour co-operatives, and when the federation comes into being we shall come forward at an appropriate stage with an amendment to the Act to provide for inclusion of the representatives of the federation Even without the amendment we shall explore the possibility whether in the category of experts who are to be nominated or of persons who have knowledge of the co-operative movement, works as representatives of the co-operative federation which may come into existence in the near future, we can include a representative of the federation as one of the members of this general body. We shall be most sympathetic in regard to this.

श्री गंगालाल गृहपाल : मैं मंत्री महोदय को धन्यवाद देता हूं, लेकिन नैशनल फ़ेडरेशन आफ लेबर कोआपरेटिव सोसायटीज रजिस्टर्ड हो चुकी हैं। इस लिए मैं उस के बारे मे विशेष रूप से आग्रह करता हू

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. Minister has said that he will consider the matter.

The question is:

"That the Bill as amended, be passed".

The motion was adopted

16.28 hrs.

PRESIDENTIAL AND VICE-PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS (AMENDMENT) BILL

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H R GOKHALE). I beg to move.

'That the Bill to amend the Presidential and Vice-Presidential Elections Act, 1952, as reported by the Joint Committee, be taken into consideration'.

Experience in the past regarding Presidential election has not been an altogether satisfying one in view of the unseemly spectacle of innumerable frivolous nominations being filed by persons in a lighthearted manner and the equally unedifying spectacle of election petitions being filed in much the same lighthearted fashion. It was, therefore felt that in order that the highest office of the Head of the State is not dragged into needless controversy because of the aforesaid practices, it would be necessary to incorporate in the law relating to Presidential and Vice-Presidential elections, provisions which would operate as effective checks both against frivolous nominations and lighthearted election petitions. With this end in view, a Bill was introduced in Parliament, the salient features of which were as follows.

(1) A prospective Presidential candidate should get the support of at least forty electors of whom at least twelve electors shall be Members of Parliament and at least twenty-four shall be Members of State Legislative Assemblies. A prospective Vice-Presidential candidate should get the support of at least ten electors.

(2) A prospective candidate should deposit a sum of two thousand five hundred rupees, which amount shall be liable to be forfeited in case the candidate fails to secure one-sixth of the number of votes necessary to secure the return of a candidate

(3) There should be a minimum of forty electors joined together as petitioners for challenging an election to the office of President and of these forty electors at least twelve should be Members of Parliament and at least twenty-four should be Members of the State Legislative Assemblies There should be a minimum of ten electors joined together as petitioners for challenging an election to the office of the Vice-President

(4) The ground relating to the offence of bribery or undue influence for challenging an election to the office of President or Vice-President should be omitted altogether.

(5) The fact that the nomination of any candidate (other than the successful candidate) who has not withdrawn his candidature has been wrongly accepted should no longer constitute a ground for declaring the election of a candidate to be void unless such acceptance has materially affected the result of the election.

[Shri H. R. Gokhale]

The Bill was referred to a Joint Committee wherein the provisions were discussed in great detail and the Bill that has emerged as a result of this searching scrutiny in the Joint Committee contains changes of a substantial nature which were made having regard to the various shades of opinion expressed in the Committee. Without going into the changes which are of a minor character or of a drafting nature, the important changes made by the Joint Committee in the Bill are:

(1) Reduction in the number of minimum supporters for the filing of nomination as well as the filing of an election petition in the case of the Presidential election from forty to twenty—ten as proposers and ten as seconders for the purpose of filing nominations;

(2) Doing away with the further requirement of the support of a specified number of members of Parliament and members of Legislative Assemblies;

(3) Instead of the provision for the rejection of the nomination papers of all the candidates other than the one that has been filed first where a person has subscribed, whether as proposer or seconder more nominations than one, it has been provided that in such a case the signature of such persons would merely be inoperative on any nomination paper other than the one first delivered; and

(4) Instead of altogether doing away with the grounds of bribery and undue influence from the purview of the law, it has now been provided that the commission of these two offences at an election by the returned candidate or by any person with the consent (and not connivance) of the returned candidate shall have the result of vitiating the election. It is needless to mention that this change effected in the Bill while reflecting the general consensus that obtained in the Joint Committee, would also mark a happy *via media* solution between two extreme views that may be possible in this behalf.

Before I conclude, I would do well to allow the apprehensions, if any, that may be entertained by members about the reasons which prompted the Government to undertake a legislation of this nature. As I had said at the outset, it does not redound to the honour or dignity of our country that the highest elective office in the country should be besmirched and tarnished in a manner which cannot certainly be said to enhance the prestige of the country in the world. It is also considered necessary to provide a built in mechanism in the law which would have a salutary and regulatory effect in curbing tendencies not conducive to the growth of a healthy democracy. The changes introduced in the law are motivated by these considerations At the same time, the Government has also shown the utmost anxiety and receptivity in making the changes in the Bill, having regard to the various shades of opinion expressed in the Joint Committee without, at the same time, departing from the basic and fundamental objective which motivated the Government in initiating a legislation of this kind. I have hope that this Bill will receive an overwhelming measure of support of the House.

With these remarks, I commend the Bill, as reported by the Joint Committee, for consideration and acceptance of the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion moved:

"That the Bill to amend the Presidential and Vice-Presidential Elections Act, 1952, as reported by the Joint Committee, be taken into consideration".

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Burdwan): The hon. Minister had said that the main reason which promoted Government to come forward

with the Bill was to see that there were no frivolous nominations and that election petitions were not filed in a lighthearted manner, and that all these proposals were prompted by the desire of Government to see that in matters regarding election to the highest offices in the country, nothing was done to tarnish the image of the President or the Vice-President.

There was, if I may say so, an outrageous provision in the Bill—or rather the omission of a provision when the Bill was first presented to the Lok Sabha. Happily the Joint Committee has not been persuaded to accept that provision that so far as bribery or undue influence are concerned, they would not form part of the grounds for challenging the election. However, that had been introduced.

This Bill was introduced after the decision of the Supreme Court in Shri Giri's election case was out.

Sir, that election was very bitterly fought in this country; and nobody can deny it. The Supreme Court, after hearing the matter for months and hearing the evidence of numerous witnesses, came to a finding that deliberately false evidence has been given in the case. I may quote only one passage from the judgment of Mr. Justice G. K Mitter while delivering one of the concurring judgments of the Supreme Court in that case. It said:

"The litigation was not one of an ordinary type, and it was conducted with great zeal on either side. It has divulged a sad lack of responsibility and uprightness in the elected representatives of the people figuring either as witnesses for the petitioners or as witnesses for the respondent. In a case like this, where both sides are responsible for putting into the witness box a large number of persons who deliberately gave evidence which was not true, the proper course is not to award costs even to the successful party."

I am sure the hon. Members are aware that the Supreme Court held in that case by a majority judgment that undue influence in fact had been exercised but it was not possible on the evidence that was available before the Supreme Court to come to the conclusion that it was done with connivance of the returned candidate. There fore, the election was not set aside, but in no uncertain manner it was held that undue influence has been in fact exercised.

Could anybody say that that election petition—I am not going into the merits as such—had been presented in a lighthearted manner? Could anybody say—the election petition had raised so many important questions of both of law and of fact—that because of some frivolous nomination papers having been filed, it resulted in that election petition? It could not be said. What was sought to be done was this. If I may say so, it was a most reprehensible attitude on the part of the Government to come forward with the Bill to delete the provisions as in the existing legislation that the election of a returned candidates to the highest office in this country will be vitiated if there was undue influence. That was intended to be deleted. What prompted the Government? The hon. Minister in his introductory speech, referred to that initial proposal I would like to know why such an outrageous proposal even could be conceived of by the Government for the purpose of introducing legislation in this respect.

Sir, happily, as I said, the Joint Committee was persuaded not to accept that and it made recommendations although in a mutilated form which have been accepted apparently by the Government, and I shall come to that.

Kindly see what are the changes which have been brought forward by the legislation. There are four major aspects. One is about the nomination: who will be entitled to nominate a candidate for the purpose of the Presidential or Vice-Presidential election. Previously, any elected Member of Parliament or any elected member of a State Legislative Assembly could nominate a candidate for the Presi-

[Shri Somnath Chatterjee]

dential election. Now, it is being provided that at least 10 persons must propose and ten persons must second. What is the special charm in this number? We have had the strange spectacle in this country that a candidate of the ruling party who was proposed by the leader of the party—it is in the common knowledge—that proposer did not vote for the candidate! Therefore, where is the special charm in finding out how many electors are initially behind the candidate for the purpose of proposing the nomination? Where is the sacrosanct aspect behind this number?

He gets 20 persons to propose him and second him. They may not vote for him. Would it not be a frivolous nomination? Where is the guarantee that in any election the proposer and the seconder will necessarily vote for the candidate? In the really contested elections, in the most bitterly contested elections to the Presidentship of the country, neither the proposer nor the seconder voted for their candidate. Therefore, what is the principle behind it? 20 persons may come forward and ultimately they may not vote. Previously the law was that there must be two electors as proposers and steconders. Suppose two persons were persuaded to propose a candidate and ultimately they did not vote for him? There might have been in history cases where a candidate did not get a single vote. Will the provision to have 10 persons as proposers and 10 persons as seconders ensure or instil a sense of seriousness in the election?

We know that the election to the office of the President is an indirect election. The electoral college consists of elected Members of both the Houses of Parliament and the elected Members of the Legislative Assemblies of the States. In what respect do they reflect popular feelings or popular choice in the country? We have been saying that for the purpose of getting proper reflection of the views of people in the legislative bodies, the elections must be held on the basis of proportional representation. Otherwise parties getting minority votes in the country can come to power. It has been the experience that with much less than 50 per cent of votes, the ruling party has been in the saddle for so many years. The first thing, therefore, is to introduce the principle of proportional representation in the election of Members to the House of the People and to the Legislative Assemblies in the States, if you cannot have direct election to the President as such. Therefore, our submission is that this attempt will not solve any of the problems that the Government are faced with. It will restrict the proper functioning and proper evolution of the democratic process. Why do you take away the right of a person to stand for election to the office of President? At least he can ventilate his views in the country whether the electoral college accepts him or not. Even if he is defeated, what does it matter? Can you restrict the number of candidates for Assemblies or for Parliament? We find that we have numerous candidates. Does it detract from the importance of the election, because there are numerous candidates? It does not. By this you are putting a restriction so that persons who may be worthwhile and who want to express their dissent in a democratic manner are deprived of their right to express their views in a lawful and a peaceful manner Therefore, the artificial limitations which are sought to be put by this legislation, will not necessarily enhance the prestige of the office of President. The President's prestige must depend on the powers he has, the way he exercises the powers for the benefit of the people. What is our experience? How many times has article 356, which deals with the imposition of President's Rule, been, we say, misused in different States? The recent example is that of Gujarat which shows that for the purpose of the ruling party's interests the Legislative Assemblies are kept alive and where it does not suit the interest of the ruling party, the Legislative Assemblies are dissolved. When the people of Gujarat have risen with one voice against the administration in the State, when the Ministry was forced to resign, the very Legislative

Assembly which cannot put up an acceptable Chief Minister, that Legislative Assembly is being kept in suspended animation for the purpose of being utilized as and when it suits the ruling party. Therefore, when the powers of the hon. President of this country, holding the highest office, the august post, can be utilized for the purpose of misusing the provisions of the articles of the Constitution of India, merely trying to put some restrictions here and there, trying to place it beyond the pale of controversy in such cases, as is intended to be done here, cannot solve the problem.

Article 310 of the Constitution seeks to protect the tenure of office of the Government servants of the country. Under that very article the President can do away with the statutory requirement of holding an enquiry before he dismisses a Government servant. What is happening in this country? Article 310 is being taken recourse to for political purposes. Officers have been dismissed without any enquiry, without any charge-sheet, without their being asked to show cause, only for purely political purposes. In one case where the Government Secretary had taken recourse to article 310, when the case went to the Supreme Court, the Court observed that it is the personal discretion of the President which has to be exercised When the case went to the President the result was the same. So, the incumbent to the office of the President has to discharge his duties and responsibilities in a manner which generates confidence in that post; merely trying to put some restrictions in the manner of election of the President will not create that sense of confidence in the post.

One of the steps that will have to be taken in this regard is to introduce the necessary basic electoral reforms in this country. If we want to have real reflection of the wishes of the people, we should have proportional representation. Then, why are we keeping the young people of this country between the ages of 18 and 21 from the process of elections? Why should they not be allowed to take part in the elections? Yet, that is not being done. The youth of this country, which is making contribution in the different walks of life is kept out of the electoral process.

Therefore, our submission is that this proposal to have ten persons as proposers and ten persons as seconders is not intended to achieve what is sought to be achieved, because there is no guarantee that the proposer and seconder will vote for that candidate. Therefore, if a person can persuade 20 people to sponsor his candidature he has got the right to contest while the others cannot. There is no rationale behind this principle and it is a check on the proper democratic process.

It is said that sometimes a candidate with a remote chance of being elected is standing as a candidate for the election. At what point of time is it decided? Without meaning any disrespect to anybody, particularly to the holder of the highest office in this country, for whom I have got the highest personal respect, was it sure that Shri V. V. Giri would be elected as President of this country? There was no political party which sponsored his candidature. Even though the ruling party had the majority in this country, it was not sponsoring him as its candidate and no other political party was sponsoring him as its candidate. Therefore, when Shri V. V. Giri stood as a candidate for election, was it certain that he was bound to be elected? It was thought by many people that he will put up a serious fight with the official Congress candidate without a very good chance of success. How do you decide? At the time of putting in nomination papers how does one decide whether he has a good chance or a remote chance of being elected?

The 1969 election for the office of the President has been an eye-opener in many respects. Now, you want that once you have achieved what you intended to, subsequent to the filing of

[Shri Somnath Chatterjee]

the nomination papers, that system may continue so that your right again may not be impinged.

If I may use the expression, these are 'special reasons which are being put forward for the purpose of enacting a legislation, trying to tinker with the provisions here and there and trying to give an impression that the Presidential election has become as it were, the play-field for certain interested or disinterested parties.

Another proposal is that of deposit. Are we going to judge in this country everything by the yardstick of money? Whether a candidate should stand for election of the highest office in this country, that will depend on whether he can beg, borrow or steal or make a deposit of Rs 2500 in cash? What is the principle behind it? You wish to put restrictions, you wish to get money from the people to find out whether he is a serious man or not a serious man In the event, if somebody wants to make a deposit for the Presidential election without having a chance, is it so difficult for him to find out Rs. 2500? What is this deposit for? Why suddenly you are introducing a principle which cannot help you in solving what you are trying to solve?

An amount of Rs. 2500 cannot be completely beyond the reach of interested persons. On the other hand, it may be a dissuading factor for the purpose of honest person, who honestly wishes to project his views before the country who wishes to be considered as a *bona fide* candidate for election to the office of the President, and who has got new things to say to the people of this country Whether it is accepted or not, he has a right of expressing his dissent democratically if he is not satisfied with the system prevailing in the country Therefore, you are putting an artificial restriction on him that he must pay Rs. 2500. If he pays Rs 2500, you tell him, "Now, you seem to be a very sincere person You have got a good chance because you could find out Rs 2500. You have passed the initial test of a 'serious candidate'". How unreal is this? You are introducing proposals which cannot be utilised for the purpose for which you want to introduce them.

Another very important thing is about the question of election petition Nobody wants a frivolous litigation except professional lawyers like us may be. Nobody will go to the Supreme Court with a completely frivilous election petition. We ought to have faith in the Supreme Court. If you do not have faith in the Supreme Court, that is a different thing. If a frivilous election petition is taken to the Supreme Court, the Supreme Court will be able to deal with it in a proper manner Does it mean that unless you have got 20 persons to move an election petition, the election petition is frivilous?

In Mr. Giri's case, our present President's case, 10 persons moved an election petition Whether we were happy or unhappy that the matter was taken to the court is a different thing We are not concerned with actual personalities We are concerned with the principle. 10 persons applied for setting aside the election of our present President Was it a frivilous petition because 10 persons moved it? Now, suddenly after this Bill is passed 10 electors to the office of the President, 10 electors to the office of the Vice-President, cannot think rationally. They cannot take a reasonable decision They cannot decide on their own whether they have got good grounds for fighting an election petition or not And if ten more persons or 15 more persons who do not apply their individual mind to it are added, certainly those persons 20 or 21, become able to decide whether the election petition will be a good petition or not Is that the position? Therefore, my submission is that you cannot achieve these things by merely putting these arbitrary and unreal restrictions on the rights of the people You have to attack the root of the problem, you have to find out why these sorts of things are being done, what steps are taken in this Bill to see that, in respect of the highest office of this country there should not

even be a suspicion of undue influence. Instead of taking steps to remove even a suspicion of undue influence, the initial proposal was to do away with the requirement altogether.

Previously, as you are aware, one of the grounds for setting aside an election was that, if there was undue influence with the connivance of the returned candidate, then the election was liable to be set aside irrespective of the fact whether the result of the election had been materially affected or not. I am reading section 18 of the present Act which says:

> "If the Supreme Court is of opinion: "that the offence of bribery or undue influence at the election has been committed by the returned candidate or by any person with the connivance of the returned candidate", the election will be set aside.

Now what is being done? The portion 'connivance of the returned candidate' is being deleted, and it is now being provided under the proposed law.

> "If the Supreme Court is of opinion, that the offence of bribery or undue influence at the election has been committed by the returned candidate or by any person with the consent of the returned candidate."

Now a person may connive at a thing, and if he is not a consenting party, he is not affected. You know, Sir, how difficult it is to prove direct consent. Therefore, the person may connive at it undue influence may be exercised with his connivance. And this is the provision in respect of election to the highest office in this country; Therefore, people may be allowed to have a feeling that so and so who has become President may have connived at undue influence but he has not consented to it. By this, are we raising the position of President in this country? Suppose I am able to prove that he has connived at it. Is that adding lustre to the highest office? Are you putting it in such a position that people will have complete faith in it? On the other hand, by passing this legislation, we are trying to detract from the great position this office occupies in this country; we are trying to have it in the people's mind that the Government in this country, the Parliament in this country, does not mind that the candidate who has been elected President of this country has connived at exercising undue influence during the process of election but as he was not a consenting party, he can go scot-free. I hope the hon. Minister will try to tell us the difference between consent and connivance, what is the inter-relation between the two. One has to be frank about it. I request the hon. Minister to deal with these points specifically. why this change has been made, is consent something else than connivance or is it the some as connivance or connivance is something other then consent and how difficult it is to prove the consent as such in the case of undue influence or bribery. Now connivance at bribery is permitted? Is that the position if the law is passed? Therefore, our submission is: this is also not a proper change. At least, the Select Committee has made some improvements, considerable improvements than the proposed Bill. But, even then we feel that it is not necessary to come out with a Bill like that, for the purpose of making changes which do not aid to the position of the President of this country, but, on the other hand, cause suspicions in the minds of the people,

17.00 hrs.

So far as Vice-President is concerned, you know here the number has been put, so far as election petition, at 10 or more, joining together. Previously, it was 5. There was no restriction. But, why again this artificial restriction? So far as the Vice-President of this country concerned he is also the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha. We feel that if the Vice-President has to play a real role in the country and in the country's evolution of democratic processes, than the Council of States which he represents should be really a representative of the States of this country.

[Shri Somnath Chatterjee]

We do not want a secondary role for the Council of States, the Rajya Sabha. We are of the view that the Council of States, representing the States, should play an equal part, an equally important role in the legislative functioning in this country. Therefore, we want that so far as the Council of States is concerned, it should also be elected by direct election through the system of proportional representation. Then it will truly reflect the States' views and if that Council of States is constituted it can elect its own Chairman who can be the Vice-President of this country. Why do you bring in here the Members of the Lok Sabha? For the purpose of election of Speaker, we do not allow interference by the Rajya Sabha members, but, for the purpose of electing the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha, you allow Lok Sabha members to participate. Therefore our submission is that this proposal also does not mean what is necessary for the purpose of a proper evolution of the democratic processes.

I have only one more submission to make, that unless in this country, the people's faith is established and restored in the proper holding of elections and in the proper conduct of elections, whatever electoral rules, whatever electoral laws we seek to introduce or seek to legislate, will not serve any purpose. It will not restore the people's confidence and all these legislations are bound to remain always suspect in the minds of the people. The need is to purify the method of election, the need is to find out the true mandate of the people and not to put restriction so that once a Party is in power, it can manipulate as to how the election can be held and how it can always get its candidates by one method or the other elected.

Therefore, these are the vital aspects, namely, electoral reforms, proper conduct and holding of elections. These are the things to be attended to before we bring this type of legislation. Therefore, we do not support this proposal because it will not do away with frivolous nominations nor will it do away what is described as light-hearted election petitions. I do not know how a petition by 20 becomes a stout hearted petition and that of 10 persons makes it a light-hearted one. Merely 10 persons would add strengthen to the petition?

Therfore, this is a useless piece of legislation. It does not make any progress in any field whatsoever On the other hand, it creates suspicion in the minds of the people.

With these words, I oppose this Bill.

SHRI H N. MUKERJEE (Calcutta—North-East) · I have had only a cursory opportunity of looking at the Bill as reported on by the Joint Committee and the predominant impression in my mind is, that this is a gratitous piece of legislation with which unfortunately our Parliament has occupied itself for quite a considerable period of time, and the result is, legislation which is completely uncalled for

I really find it very difficult to understand the motive behind such legislation unless it be, as my friend Mr. Chatterjee suggested a little while earlier, that it is to put curbs on the normal decent democratic way of securing elections, even to the highest offices in our country. I have no manner of doubt in my mind that when the Constituent Assembly was in session, they gave a great deal of thought to the dignity and the supreme importance of the office of President and also of the essentiality of the office of the Vice-President and they set out a certain me-

chanism for the election of these two of our foremost dignitaries.

But, perhaps, when after the election of our President last time, there were certain legal proceedings, and the President did appear before the Supreme Court, it may be that some sticklers for the ceremonials in Government, got an idea that there should be efforts made to put the President,—and to some extent also the Vice-President,—in such a very separate category, shrouded in some kind of oil paper which should be absolutely beyond the ambit so to speak, of normal legislative principles of selection.

I do not know why it is that because of the likely appearance of a few people with frivolous intentions of self-publicity—we should try to shroud the office of the President and the Vice-President in this particular manner.

As a matter of fact, it was only in the Committee that the number of electors required obligatorily by the President for the purposes of his nomination for selection is brought now to 20 instead of 40, as said earlier. Why on earth should it be obligatory for a citizen of this country to be nominated by as many as 20 people and not less, and they have to be Members of the Legislature? What harm is there if in a country where certain minorities which are not represented in the legislature even to any extent do get an opportunity of contesting the office of a President? Why should not even symbolically the office of President be permitted to be contested by individuals? Is it because we think some cranks would get into the scene? The cranks can get into the scene in this country even though you make provisions of this sort. We should have no exaggerated idea of our own legislators, including ourselves, that if we put the number at a very high level. then, of course, nothing wrong would happen. We see what sort of things take place. Parliament is now in possession of the Defection Bill, which again is another example of the kind of degeneration which has overtaken the legislative life of this country, where you find legislators, elected representatives of the people behaving in a manner which is most dastardly.

It is no good merely adding to the number of likely nominators of the President, to make sure that only very serious nominations for Presidentship would take place.

I do not know why one has to go on motive—hunting of a motiveless malignity, as somebody said about a Shakespearian character, in so far as Government's legislation is concerned; What is the reason for it? What is the provocation for it?

What is the reason for limiting the right of the electors to propose somebody for the office of the President and Vice-President? The experience of the last four or five elections has not been so dismal and disastrous and all that. The elections had proceeded in a very smooth and harmonious fashion. One or two candidates had appeared when nobody ever knew. Their names appeared in the papers for a few days. And everybody laughed over them. So, please let us not put this legislation in our Statute Book I do not see any reason why we should try to limit the rights of the electors in so far as the proposal for Presidentship and Vice-Presidentship is concerned. I find it almost impossible to accept the idea of the change which has been suggested by the Joint Committee in so far as the grounds for disqualification of the returned candidate are concerned.

[Shri H. N. Mukherjee]

Instead of 'connivance', the word 'consent' has now been put in. What difference does it make? Mr. Chatterjee was arguing quite convincingly. I do not see what Government can say in justification of removing the expression 'connivance' and putting in the word 'consent'? Is it not an implied reflection on the character of a person who gets himself returned as the President of this country? After all, if connivance charge is made against him, he could get away with it but, if he had consented to it, then, of course, he cannot get away. I would not even remotely think of casting that kind of indirect reflection upon a person whom I consider to be capable of getting himself elected as President of this country. What kind of political life are we envisaging? Do the Government not have other jobs to pre-occupy themselves with? Is the condition of the people not an enough assignment which they have got to ameliorate earlier than anything else? Why do we busy ourselves with this kind of gratuitous legislation which means nothing to anybody in this country? Is it because we have this feeling that the President's Office is a high falutin and, so a very special legislation of this type is necessary? It is about time that this country sheds the feudalistic idea about the position of the President and Vice-President being in the clouds, so to speak.

We are suffering on account of the hangover of this mentality which continues to plague the political morality of our lives. Why the President should live in Babylone on splendour in a country like ours where deprivation is the destination of every single individual. In our country, we keep the President in a condition which is a sharp contrast to the living conditions of our people. Here, in our country, where perhaps hundreds of millions of children go to sleep every night hungry, we keep our President and other ceremonial heads of the country in a peculiary affluent condition. This is a continuation of the feudalistic tradition which should go.

Only yesterday, we had the repetition of the ceremonial ritual which has been performed only because the President, according to the constitutional connotation, appears to be a successor to the Viceroy who was the representatives of the King and therefore should have the regal kind of paraphernalia of beating of the drums and sounding of the bugles, the procession and all that sort of things. This is a reminiscance of the Mambo Jumbo of the feudalistic period.

I refer to all this because the Government of this kind also appears to think that the President is something out of the blue. We seem to put him on a pedestral as if there is a link between him and everybody else in this country.

Mahatma Gandhi had talked about the President being a person and perhaps, an untouchable lady should be installed as a President in this country. He was symbolically trying to give expression to something of the sea change which this ancient country of ours requires to have or wants to have. If that is so, then our people are going to have nothing at all. I know that perhaps the Law Minister would say that all this is not relevant to this Bill It is absolutely relevant. I say that there is nothing in this Bill which affects the interests of our people at all, and in so far as it affects the interests of our people, it affects prejudicially the right of our people to nominate anybody whom they like whatsoever for election to this office, but because of our conception of the President's office as something very peculiar, very sacrosanct, we get into this kind of absolutely unnecessary legislation.

I have made a very quick and cursory study of the provisions here. I find that there is no need whatever for this.

In regard to the office of the Vice-President also, I agree with what Mr. Chatterjee has suggested about this office. If not the very existence of this office, the very connotation of the office and its duties will have to be thought over much more carefully then this Bill seems to do. The Vice-President more or less is here as someone tagged on to the office of the President. That may be more or less the position as it is in our country today. The Vice-Presidents have normally very little to do except to preside over the Council of States or the Rajya Sabha, and then, if something happens to the President, step in into his shoes. Otherwise, the position of the Vice-President really needs examination. Even in the United States, for instance a Vice-President is more of less non-entity unless for some very special reason he can push his way to the fore front. There used to be a saying that in a family there were two sons, and one went to the sea and the other became Vice-President, and neither of them have been heard of ever since. But that apart we have in this country the office of Vice-President which we consider to be a dignified enough office. Why potter about with the manner of election to the Vice-Presidentship? It is a good enough mechanism what you have got already. Why have this kind of additional legislation? Why curb the right? If we are going to think of the position of the Vice-President, do make some deep examination of the position of the Rajya Sabha which some people, when our House of the People was called the Lok Sabha, described as Paralok Sabha, but since that time, insistently, but from different angles, the position of that House continues to be a matter for examination. Examine it properly. I find here Shri Samar Mukherjee's note of dissent, also seconded by Shri Chatterjee's speech, where references are made to the whole idea of re-examining the *locus standi* or the *raison d'etre* of the Rajya Sabha and to bring about whatever changes might be necessary in a Union of States which is the Republic of India. I can understand that that is a matter which requires examination but I just do not understand this sort of thing at all.

I could understand if for example Government came forward with legislation which was suggested after some events when the President's Address was disturbed. It was suggested that we should have a change in the Constitution which would make it unnecessary for the President to come in a peculiarly ceremonial atmosphere and make an Address to Parliament which is absolutely of no moment whatsoever in so far as our parliamentary and public life is concerned, that there should be in all conscience and in all reason an effort change the Constitution, so that the obligation that he has unfortunately to come here and address both Houses together is gone, so that at least the seemingly unnecessary and uncomfortable events can also be avoided at the same time. I can understand some sort of practical legislation to get more time for parliamentary work and less time for unnecessary ceremonial. I can understand that kind of legislation. But why this legislation? Will you save money? Will you save time? Will you bring a better moral atmosphere to play into the office of these two dignitaries? I do not think so at all.

We have had very fine people as our Presidents and Vice-President elected by the processes envisaged in our Constitution, which do not require any change whatever. The changes which have been suggested in the present legislation are changes for the worse, because they fetter the right of the citizen. They fetter also the right of the judiciary to examine cases of misconduct. By

[Shri H. N Mukherjee]

changing 'connivance' to 'consent', there is an open invitation to misconduct and in a manner which reflects so terribly even on the office of the President. If the Government could envisage a returned Presidential candidate to be capable of connivance but to be clever enough to avoid being caught on the ground of consent, then I say, to hell with the ideas which this Government has got about a parliamentary system of administration, to hell with whatever ideas this Government has got about the office of President in at least a civilised, ancient country like ours Our experience so far has been such that this kind of legislation which is self-defeating, which is something which is a slander on the character of the people of our country, should go, should not be proceeded with. No harm would be done, no prestige would be affected I am not asking him to ride a high horse I do not think he wishes to ride a high horse in this matter. He could very well come round and say: Look here, after some cogitation, we discovered that this Bill need be proceeded with; let the Presidential and Vice-Presidential election be conducted in the manner it has been so far; no harm would result.

Therefore, I would suggest very seriously that he withdraws this Bill. There is nothing in it which requires to be adopted by the House.

SHRI DINESH CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Gauhati): I appreciate the objectives with which this Bill has been brought before the House No one will dispute that the offices of President and Vice-President are very august offices in this country and threfore, a certain amount of seriousness should be attached to the election to these offices and respect also should be shown to these offices. But as I go through the Bill I feel that the purpose for which this Bill has been brought will not be achieved by this Bill. Even if there was some possibility of achieving it, the Joint Committee has, to a great extent, diluted it.

Before I go into it, I feel that the time has come for the House to ponder whether merely by changing some legislative provisions relating the election, we can maintain the dignity and decorum of these highest offices like the President's or Vice-Prescident's and also the dignity and decorum of institutions like Parliament As a young new member who has come to this House for the first time, who has looked into the activities of the House for the last few years, I have felt that the real threat to be dignity and decorum of the institution and these offices comes not only from outsiders but to a great extent from ourselves To a great extent we have not been able to maintain, on occasions, the dignity and decorum of these highest offices, and may be of this institution also

Looking back on the events that occurred only on the 18th when the President came to address the two Houses and the scene that some of our friends opposite created, do you really feel that we can maintain the respect or dignity of this august House by creating such a scene? Looking at the time we waste in this House by unnecessary shouts and counter-shouts, can we really expect the dignity and decorum of this institution to be maintained by such behaviour?

One of the most important foreign dignataries whom I had the opportunity to met today who—I would not like to name—and who was present in the Gallery told me: 'Look here, your Parliament is respected all over the world because your Parliament represents the largest democracy in the whole world. But with the scene I have seen today when a Minister was making a statement, when there were all sorts of shouts and counter-shouts, due to which I could not listen to a word of what the Minister said, do you

think that for long you will be able to maintain this respect throughout the world if such a situation continues? I hang my head in shame when he said this. I would request all members not only on this side but also on the Opposition side to keep in mind that this warning has come from a person who has no interest in the Indian political scene. He is a man who wants democracy in this country to succeed. He is a man who wants that the Indian Parliament should be an ideal Parliament of the world. Therefore, with a certain amount of distress in his heart he has expressed this opinion.

I therefore think that in the context of his Bill it is also necessary for us to search our own hearts and find out the faults which may ultimately affect the functioning of democracy in this country.

Coming to the provisions of this Bill, this Bill was brought with the intention that on a candidate who has got no chance of success in the Presidential or Vice-Presidential election at least some sort of prohibition should be put from his contesting the election but from 1960, if we look back to the earlier Presidential and Vice-Presidential elections we find that persons really joined the fray knowing fully well that they could not succeed but they joined the fray only with the intention that their names may appear in the papers and for posterity also in the records their names may remain. So, I do appreciate the Government that in order to keep a certain amount of dignity and decorum in this office, at least such a type of election fighting may be avoided. Therefore, I could understand it when the Government came forward with the proposal that in the case of Presidential election at least there should be 20 electors as proposers and 20 electors as seconders, with 12 from Parliament and not less than 24 from the State Legislative Assemblies, because, for anyone who can muster a large number of proposers and seconders it may be said that he is a person behind whom there is a certain amount of backing. But today, what we find is that there should be only 10 electors as proposers and 10 as suporters under the report of the Joint Committee. If we look to the country at large I do not think that it is difficult to get 10 supporters and proposers for anyone who would like to contest. Therefore, the purpose for which this Bill has been brought has to a certain extent been diluted by the report of the Joint Committee, and so I would request the hon. Law Minister and the House to ponder and consider whether it will be desirable to adopt fully the clause originally brougt forward or no to adopt it at all, because in the present circumstances, almost anyone can say it is not difficult to get 10 electors either this side or that side.

Then, the second objection I find is this After all, the Vice-President discharges almost equal functions of the President. In the case of the Vice-President, why an artificial number of five is inserted? If we feel that in the case of the President there should be 10 electors, why not 10 electors be fixed in the caste of the Vice-President also? What is the rationale and justification behind the provision for five electors in the case of nomination for the Vice-President?

The other thing which I would like the Law Minister to take note of is this. Under clause 5B(2), each nomination paper is to be accompanied by a certified copy of the entry relating to the candidate in the electoral roll for the Parliament constituency in which the candidate is registered as an elector. (*Interruptions*). Under clause 5B(2) a certified copy of the electoral roll is necessary for filling the nomination. It is also necessary in the case of Parliamentary and Assembly costituencies But in such cases, if you produce the electoral roll at the time of the scrutiny, that suffices. But I request the hon. Minister of Law to kindly see—it is rather an important point—that under clause 5B(2), if the certified copy is not enclosed, then the nomination paper is bound to be rejected You have give no option for anyone

[Shri Dinesh Chandra Goswami]

but to submit the electoral roll. Supposing the office does not give me a certified cope. I can get a certified copy of the electoral roll provided the office supplies it to me. Supposing I am an intending candidate and the office does not supply me with a certified copy, before the date of the submission of the nomination paper in that case also, my nomination paper is going to be rejected. In the case of the Assembly or the Parliamentary constituency, there is a safeguard that if the certified copy is not there. If I produce the original electoral roll before the Returning Officer, he is bound to accept it. I think you should keep such a provision in this Act also.

Coming to the other objectionable features to which my friend has referred, that is, bribery and undue influence in the elections, I should like to say this. I can understand that originally, the words "bribery and undue influence" were not there because the purpose probably was that the person who has been returned to the highest office of the President suported by the Members of Parliament and members of State legislatures was at least expected to be a responsible person. In such cases, it may be said that such Members of Parliament or such members of the legislatures will not be taken in by undue influence and bribery, and therefore, in an election petition, the elected President should not be dragged into such controversies. I could understand it. I could understand therefore that the entire words "bribery and undue influene" were removed from the original Bill. The Select Committee has diluted it. It has now included undue influence and bribary also. I entirely agree with my learned friend that it is not possible for anybody to prove consent in any Court of law. Therefore, it is better that we go back to the original clause. The President is elected by the Members of the State Legislatures and by the Members of Parliament who are responsible persons and, therefore, will not be unduly influenced and this will not be an issue which can be agitated in an election petition. But if you permit it to be agitated we should not make it "with consent".

In clause 7 you say that if the Supreme Court is of the opinion that the offence of bribery and undue influence has been committed by a returned candidate ....the Supreme Court can set it aside. Suppose there are three candidates in the field, the candidate who was not returned might have influenced the result of election by bribery and undue influence. Suppose there was a keen contest and the difference of vote was one, the undue influence of the third candidate might have affected the choise of the second candidate. In such cases why—do you not permit an election petition? It might be that a person who was successful could not have been successful but for the undue influence and bribery by the third candidate. You only permit an election petition in the cases you have specified. Bribery and undue influence in a close contest by a successful candidate may also held in the success of a person who would not have been successful if this had not been there. So this point should be taken care of. This should be widened as in the case of other election petitions. Even if there was undue influence by a third candidate which materially affected the election the Supreme Court should be permitted to look into it and set aside an election of this kind.

My learned friend Shri Somnath Chatterjee said that so far as the Vice President was concerned Lok Sabha should be kept out, because he was the Chairman of the Council of States. I disagree with him. This Vice President is not only the Chairman of the Council of States, but in the absence of the President, under article 65 of the Constitution he is called upon to discharge certain responsibilities. So when that contingency is there he discharges the functions of the President. So we, the Members of the Lok Sabha would like to see a person of our own choice to be the President to discharge the duties of the

President when circumstances necessitate such a course of action. Therefore, I feel that the ground urged by my learned friend is not correct...... (*Interruptions*). Even if you want to give the power to the Council of States, it should be a Council of States with equal representations from all States and not a Council of States with the character that it has today. I feel that the Law Minister should ponder over the whole thing. I feel that the original Bill should be passed, because the amended Bill has diluted the effect to such an extent that the objectives to which we subscribe may not be achieved. If in the ultimate analysis the House is not prepared to accept the original Bill then we should have some sort of experiment of this Bill so that we can see what happens. The Government will be able to bring in amendments to suit the contingencies that may arise in the future.

श्री आर० वी० बड़े (खरगोन) : सभापति महोदय, यह बिल क्यों लाया गया यह बात हमारी कल्पना में नहीं आती। हम ने अमेंडमेंट देखा तो उस में दो बातें बताई हैं। एक यह कि लाइट हार्टेड एलेक्शन न हो। तो पांच साल तक उन को यह खबर नहीं पड़ी कि इस तरह के एलेक्शन कुछ ऐसी बाते होतं हैं और अब कहते हैं कि कोई कैंडीडेट खड़ा होना हो तो उस के लिए दस प्रोपोजर और दस सेकेंडर होने चाहिए। तो मैं पूछता हूं कि दस दस की संख्या ही क्यों रखी, पन्द्रह पन्द्रह क्यों नहीं रखे या बीस बीस क्यों नहीं रखे ? जिस तरह से रायट के लिए कहते हैं कि फाइव आर मोर परसन्स उसी तरह से इस मे डाल दिया। अभी घेराव के आफेन्स के बारे यह आया कि टेन आर मोर परसन्स हों तो घेराव का आफेंस होता है तो मैं कहता हूं कि यह टेन का क्यों इस प्रकार का अट्रैक्शन हो रहा है, यह बात कुछ समझ में नही आती।

इसी के साथ में उन्होंने यह कहा है कि ढाई हजार रुपये उस को डिपाजिट के देने चाहिए तो यह क्यों किया है ? क्या आप एलेक्शन को इतना महंगा करना चाहते हैं ? क्या फादर आफ दि नेशन महात्मा जी ने जो कहा था कि हरिजन भी कल हमारा राष्ट्रपति हो सकता है तो क्या हरिजन ढाई हजार रुपये दे सकता है तो फिर यह क्यों रखा है ? क्या महात्मा गांधी के जो सिद्धांत थे, जो उन के कथन थे उन को आप ने खड्डे में डाल दिया ; इस के लिये आप ने कुछ बताया नहीं कि इसे किस लिए रखा है ? एक चीज आप कहते हैं कि फ्रिविलस पेटीशंस नहीं होनी चाहिए। तो आज ढाई हजार रुपये तो कोई भी आदमी दे सकता है जिस के पास बहुत सा ब्लैक मनी है। इस ढाई हजार रुपये की तो उस के लिए कोई कीमत नही है। ऐसा था तो और ज्यादा क्यो नही रखा? जो आप कारण बताते है कि फ्रिविलस पेटीशंस नही होनी चाहिए, मैं समझता हूं उस के लिए इस को रखना कुछ उचित नही है। मालूम पड़ता है कि शासन ने अपनी सारी जो नीति था उसे खत्म कर दिया और ढाई हजार रुपए का डिपाजिट यहां रख दिया।

सभापति महोदय : शायद उनका ख्याल यह होगा कि पैसे वाले फ्रिविलस नही होते।

श्री आर० वी० बड़े : पैसे वाले ज्यादा फ्रिविलस होते हैं। वह तो ढाई हजार रुपए कभी भी डिपाजिट कर सकते हैं। लेकिन गरीब आदमी नहीं कर सकता। गरीब आदमी सच्चा होता है। फिर सेक्शन 18 में लिखा है .

"..in section 18, enabling the Supreme Court to declare a Presidential election to be void on the ground of commission of the offences of bribery and undue in-

fluence even by a third party who may have no nexus with the returned candidate should be omitted.'

मैं यह कहता हूं कि कंसेंट और कनाइवेंस में क्या फर्क है ? जो मिनिस्टर कामत का एविडेंस हुआ है, उस में उन्होंने बहुत अच्छा कहा है उन्होंने कहा है कि कंसेंट में और कनाइवेंस में क्या फर्क है ? वह कहते हैं कि कंसेंट हो तो भी ठीक है और कनाइवेंस हो तो भी ठीक है । एलेक्शन पेटीशन में जो उन्होंने एविडेंस दिया है उसका कोटेशन उस में दिया है, वह मैं आप के सामने पढ़ता हूं :

"At or about this time there was frequently reference in the daily newspapers to a group in the Congress dubbed as syndicate and another group described as Young Turks who were in open rebellion against the syndicate. The pamphlet shows that the authors thereof were of the view that the Prime Minister was attempting to give what according to them was a correct lead to the country and that she was sought to be thwarted by the members of the syndicate. So much so that the atter were said to have entered in to a conspiracy to oust the Prime Minister from her position and set up a coalition government. This is sought to be supported by written ascribed to Smt. Tarkeshwari Sinha as openly threatening the defeat of the Prime Minister by the syndicate.

There are thus strong indications in the pumphlet to show where it could have come from and who were interested in the defeat of Shri Sanjeeva Reddy and the motive behind this move. It has come out in the evidence of a number of persons examined on behalf of the respondent some of whom admitted themselves to have been described in the press as Young Truks, that their views about the management of the affairs of the Congress Party by some senior members of it described as syndicate was similar to that expressed in the pamphlet."

This is all I would like to read from the Supreme Court judgment.

उस में आगे जा कर कहा है कि यह पेम्फलेट बांटना कन्सेन्ट था या कनाइवेंस था । लेकिन उस में यह भी कहा गया है कि इसका इलैक्शन पर कोई विशेष असर नहीं पड़ा । मैं पूछना चाहता हूं हमारे ला-मिनिस्टर बहुत विद्वान हैं, इस प्रकार से कनाइवेंस और कन्सेन्ट की जो बात कही गई है, इस से क्या फायदा है, कनाइवेंस की जगह कन्सेन्ट रखने से ज्यादा फायदा होगा या जो सिलैक्ट कमेटी थी उस को केवल बताने के वास्ते ऐसा कहा गया है । मेरी दृष्टि में तो इन शब्दों की बजाय पूरे सैक्शन को ही क्यों न एवाइड किया जाय ।

इस के बाद इन्होंने कहा है कि वोटर्स और सपोर्टर्स को दूसरे कैन्डिडेट कपोर्ट नहीं करना चाहिये । मैं कहना चाहता हूं कि यदि 10 लोक सभा के सदस्य और 10 एम० एल० ए० किसी को सपोर्ट देते हैं तो क्या आप उन के पीछे वाच करते रहेंगे कि दूसरे किसी को सपोर्ट दिया है या नहीं । इलैक्शन में इस प्रकार का जो फर्क आप करना चाहते हैं, वह क्यों करना चाहते हैं । इसके वास्ते ला-मिनिस्टर साहब ने कोई भी अच्छा कारण नहीं बताया है । मैं इन बातों—डिपाजिट और प्रपोजर जब सैकण्डर के बारे में—विरोध करने के लिये खड़ा हुआ हूं और ला-मिनिस्टर से बिनती करता हूं कि वे इन अमेण्डमेन्ट्स को वापस ले लें ।

SHRI P. G. MAVALANKAR (Ahmedabad): Mr. Chairman, Sir, may I at the outset offer my congratulations to you on your taking the Chair and presiding over the debate on this measure today.

I wish to offer my remarks in all humility and frankness about this

[Shri P. G. Mavalankar]

measure which my esteemed friend, the Law Minister, has brought forward before the house. I hope when I say something with regard to the office of the President and the office of the Vice-President, my remarks and comments will not be construed by this House or by anybody outside that they are, in any way, reflections on the individuals who have already occupied these high offices and who today two of them, are holding these high offices. We are not discussing individuals; we are discussing certain constitutional provisions and principles involved. We have to look at these provisions from that angle alone.

When one reads this measure whether it is in the form of an original Bill which was brought forward before the House or in the amended form which the Joint Committee has given us, not only one is wonderstruck but one feels completely at a loss as to what really, basically, has been achieved by this measure. We must, of course, be grateful to the Joint Committee for deliberating on this apparently simple but very difficult and delicate measure because it concerns the highest office and it also concerns with the anxiety to keep the highest office clothed with dignity and seriousness. I feel, that was the main consideration.

When one looks at the deliberations of the Joint Committee, one feels that they too have also, more or less, imprisoned them with the provisions suggested by the Government. For example, they say, instead of 20, let it be 10; instead of reducing the time-limit, let it be as it is, etc. The Joint Committee Report itself is not materially different from the original proposition contained in the Bill of the Law Minister.

I fully appreciate and even endorse the remarks made by two of my esteemed friends who preceded me, Shri Somnath Chatterjee and Prof. H. N. Mukerjee. With legitimate and justified anger, they expressed themselves vehemently against this Bill. I too must take the same line though slightly on different grounds.

I wish the Government had brought a different sort of legislative measure dealing with the election to the offices of the President and the Vice-President. For example, if the Law Minister had brought forward a Bill making it possible for the office of the President, particularly, being freed from the court life and from the courtiers that are unfortunately surrounding this highest office in the land, we would have welcomed it. One may not be able to reach in the present situation the ideal which Mahatma Gandhi had placed before us that we should have a Harijan girl as President. Mahatma Gandhi used that expression in a symbolic way, in a kind of figure of speech. What he was aiming at was that the lowest of the low, the most depressed of the depressed, someone from these communities, must also be able to rise to the highest office in the land. But in these last 26 years of independence, have we made Rashtrapati Bhavan a place where the ordinary people can go and meet the President? Is there any accessibility between the common citizens of this country and the highest man of this country, President of India? And this is true not only of President or Vice President but also of the Prime Minister the Ministers, the Ministers of State, the Deputy Ministers, and several other high dignitaries of the Government. We have surrounded them with a paraphernalia of people which is difficult to break through even by Members of Parliament, not to speak of ordinary citizens. If the Law Minister had brought forward a Bill which would have freed, as I said, the office of the President from the court life of the good old or bad old British days, from the imperial legacy or the imperial heritage, from those detestible traditions and conventions, some of us, or at least I, would have been able to commend

[Shri P. G. Mavalankar]

such a measure; we would have said, That is going in the direction in which Mahatma Gandhi wanted us to go before his death when he said that the President must be a Harijan girl'. Instead of spending usefully the time and energy and the talents of the very talented Law Minister and very talented members of this House, here we are faced with a situation wherein we are asked to accept something which has neither any purpose nor any meaning or reality. I am sorry to use harsh language, but I do sincerely feel that this Bill achieves nothing. And if that was all, then I would have said, 'All right; at least it is harmless'. But it is not harmless. By adding certain provisions, whether it is 20 or 40 or whatever it is, by making these changes, this Bill is seeking to make certain situations complicated. And what is more difficult to understand is this fact that, in the name of avoiding frivolity and with the excuse of having seriousness imported into the election and subsequent holding of the office of President of India, what this Bill has done is to make it difficult, if not impossible, for an upright individual and an independent citizen of this country to contest the highest office if he is not able to get the necessary support of the Members of State Legislative Assemblies or Members of Parliament. Is it necessary, I ask the Law Minister, for a person who wants to contest this office to seek the blessings and support of Members of Parliament and Members of State Legislative Assemblies in order to become even a candidate? Let us, please, not forget the point that the Constitution of India does not envisage that the elected members of Parliament and State Legislative Assemblies should become instruments for curbing the freedom of the independent individuals of this country. All that the Constitution of India tells us is that the following will elect the President and Vice President. And who are the following? The elected representatives of the people, whether they sit in Parliament or State Legislative Assemblies. But to go beyond this and to ask the electoral colleague for the election of President and Vice President of India, to become a kind of a restraining factor or to make the elected MPS and MLAs instruments for curbing the basic freedom of a citizen, namely, to contest the highest office in the land, is, I think, highly objectionable and highly undemocratic and, I, for one, as an independent member of this House, cannot accept a situation where a Government has to tell, "If you want to stand for Presidentship, you must secure the blessings, support and co-operation of some Members of Parliament and some members of the Legislative Assemblies in order that you may become a candidate". Anybody who becomes a candidate knows jolly well that if he wants to get elected or at least if he wants to make a reasonably good show of collecting sizeable votes, he must have the goodwill and support and sensible support at that, of the elected Members of the Parliament and the elected members of the Legislative Assemblies of the States because he has to depend on their votes. But should he also depend on them at the very initial stage of candidature itself? Whether it is 10 or 20 is an immaterial matter. My submission is: should he depend on these elected members of Parliament and elected members of legislative assemblies for becoming even a candidate?

Therefore, I want to ask the Minister of Law whether it is not really curbing the fundamental liberties of the citizen. He is nodding, meaning 'No', but let him give his argument. For example, may I ask any one in the State Assembly or the Parliament that you cannot stand for election unless ten members of the Panchayats or 10 people of prestige in a particular area support your candidature and then only you can become a candidate...

SHRI ANNASAHEB GOTKHINDE (Sangli): The law is not like that.

SHRI P. G. MAVALANKAR: Precisely! I know the law is not like that Because basically the constitution tells that it is a fundamental right of every citizen of this country to stand for election, whether it is Panchayat Board membership or Parliament Membership or even the highest offices of the land, namely, the President and Vice-President. How can you stop a citizen? He has a right, it is an inherent right which has been accepted by the Constitution and no Minister or no Government to whichever Party it may belong, can take away that right. It is not something by way of a grant or mercy of the Government or of the Minister. It is the right of anybody to become a candidate. It is the inherent right of the candidate, the inherent right of the citizen to become a candidate.

Therefore, I want to tell you that what the Minister has done, and that is all that he has done, is that he has made it impossible for independents, for honest and upright individuals, to aspire legitimately or rightly to aspire not with narrow ambitions, but to aspire with the natural desire to serve the country and to contest for the highest office available to him or her. If you look at the Law Minister's Statement of Objets and Reasons—I want to ask the Law Minister to please look at it again—this is what the opening sentence in the Bill says:

> "Experience has revealed that persons offer themselves as candidates to the highest office of President without even a remote chance of getting elected."

I repeat the words "without even a remote chance of getting elected." Now I ask: 'How do you know? I submit this is highly undemocratic. How can one assume in advance that a particular individual has no chance whatsoever of getting elected to a particular office? This is contrary to the very basic idea of democracy. A Small man or a man in a minority, surely he cannot get elected. But, to say that he has not the remotest chance of getting elected is very undemocratic. He can contest once, twice or three times or four time why not? ....(*Interruptions*) upto cannot understand any individual citizen becoming a candidate only on the basis of his getting the support and blessings and co-operation *a priori* of the Members of Parliament and Members of the Assemblies who form the electoral college for President and Vice-President. Of course, he cannot get elected without the support of M.P.s and MLAs, but do you want to make it a pre-condition for his candidature on the assumption...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Are you suggesting that there should be no proposer or seconder at all?

SHRI P. G. MAVALANKAR: I am not suggesting that. My argument should not be stretched and reduced to a logical absurdity. By increasing the numbers of Members of Parliament or M.L.As. as Joint proposers or Collective-proposers and Seconders of particular candidates, you do not make that candidature, necessarily more serious or less frivolous.

By making this provision we make it well-high impossible or at least very difficult for an independent candidate or an independent citizen—who may not be in Parliament at all, who may not have seen the portels of the Parliament House or there of the Legislative Assemblies of the State,—who may be very qualified in the eyes of Members of Parliament themselves, to become the President of this country or the Vice-President of this country. Therefore, they are mixing up Electoral College membership with this idea of making them instruments for this thing. But, Sir, don't you think how undemocratic it is for the

[Shri P. G. Mavalankar]

Law Minister to say these words—'without even a remote chance of getting elected'? How does he or anyone know? How do we know that a person who is a candidate will never get elected? He might be elected. Therefore, this idea is very basically wrong

Secondly, the Minister in his statement of Objects and Reasons says. 'Another matter which is of equal, if not greater, concern is the light-hearted manner in which persons' etc etc. I request the Law Minister to kindly define this very interesting phrase 'light-heartedness'. What exactly does he mean by 'light-hearted' manner? 'Light-heart' means what? It is like that other Bill and I do not want to speak at this stage on that Bill I don't belong to any party, but if one Member belongs to one party, he changes and goes to another party, out of conviction, inner conviction, not with a view to getting anything, but only with a view to satisfying his conscience, that he must be always on the side of right and justice and truth, as he sees it, and therefore he changes the party, the Bill which is already before the House says; No, no, that will not be permitted But if 20 or 30 in a group go, that will be permitted. The same logic applies here Therefore, I cannot understand this It is light-heartedness if it is one But if it is more, then it is serious-heartedness! How can it be? I would like therefore, the hon Law Minister to define this term 'light-heartedness'

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI K. RAGHURAMAIAH): Without interposing myself on the Law Minister, I think, what he meant by 'light-hearted' is a vegetarian expression of chicken-hearted.

SHRI P. G. MAVALANKAR: I am glad my friend, the hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, has injected some good humour into the Debate But I hope he does not therefore want to detract the seriousness of the argument which I am trying to develop on this matter.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That remark was also light-hearted..

SHRI P. G. MAVALANKAR: Therefore, I am suggesting this, that, to say 'without even a remote chance of getting elected' is not the correct expression, these words are an insult of an individual, because, our own Constitution, particularly the Preamble, says and mentions the words 'dignity of the individual and unity of the nation'. This is the phrase in our Preamble It says 'Dignity of the individual and unity of the nation'. If the individual, in his dignity, wants to stand, what happens? He must first canvass and campaign, not for getting elected, but for just becoming a candidate Therefore, what I feel is, these restrictions which are proposed to be imposed on the prospective Presidential candidates and on the prospective Vice-Presidential candidates are restrictions which ar artificial, which are unreal And, therefore, I oppose this Bill on that score

Secondly, I want to suggest that these restrictions, or, rather, these proposed restrictions, are negative and undemocratic restraints on an independent citizen and an upright individual

Thirdly, I want to ask the Law Minister and the Government, whether frivolity or seriousness is something which goes with men and money You pay more money by way of deposit and then you are less frivolous You get more support of more individuals and then you are more serious But, you don't always or necessarily get support, even if you are right! What has history taught us? History has given us examples of several individuals who have the courage to stand all by themselves, as lone or single individuals, backed up neither by men nor by money, but only backed up by their conscience. and backed up by their real convictions, and backed up by their character and integrity.

18 hrs.

And yet, this Bill will make it impossible for such individuals of the country to contest the office of the President. It is from that angle also I want to suggest that this obnoxious Bill must be thrown where it rightly and obviously belongs.

Finally, I want to suggest one or two things. One of them is this. The Minister says in his Statement of Objects and Reasons in No. 4 as follows:—

> "The ground relating to the offence of bribery or undue influence for challenging an election to the office of President or Vice-President should be omitted altogether".

What the Minister say is extraordinary. I am not going to enter into any detailed argument, partly because there is no time and partly also because this was discussed already.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Mavalankar, will you be finishing within half a minute or would you want more time?

SHRI P. G. MAVALANKAR: I would need some more time.

MR. CHAIRMAN: If that is so, before I adjourn, I shall call upon Shri K. Raghu Ramaiah, the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, to present his Thirty-sixth Report of the Business Advisory Committee.

BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

THIRTY-SIXTH REPORT

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI K. RAGHU RAMAIAH): Sir, I beg to present the Thirty-sixth Report of the Business Advisory Committee.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House now stands adjourned till 11 a.m. on 21st February, 1974.

18.01 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Thursday, February 21, 1974/*Phalguna* 2, 1895 (*Saka*)

GIPND—L—3151 LS—1010.